

**Proposed Sponsor Amendment to LD 1034, An Act To Provide Funding To Support the
Permanent Commission on the Status of Racial, Indigenous and Maine Tribal
Populations**

April 14, 2021

Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government

1. Strike "Maine" from the name of the Commission. Revise the language in the statute to make clear that the Commission includes members of Maine's federally recognized tribes so we do not lose the qualifying description of the tribes who have representation.
2. Allow the Commission to appoint additional members by vote of the appointed members.
3. Members shall be entitled to reimbursement and compensation as outlined in MRSA Title 5, Chapter 379.
4. The Commission may submit legislation for consideration by the Legislature at any time.
5. Three staff positions, including an Executive Director, will be created for the Commission.
6. Funds for the completion of work referred to the Commission, professional services contracts, STACAP, operating expenses, community outreach and engagement, training and education will be provided annually in addition to the Commission's authority to solicit, accept, and use private funding. The Commission is also responsible for creating and maintaining a database of reliable contact information for impacted individuals and stakeholders as well as resources. Primary, secondary and applied research at a published research standard as well as data collection and analysis are significant responsibilities of the Commission. Maintenance of this information will be costly as well. The sponsor anticipates requiring an annual budget of \$2M.
 - a. \$400K for Personal Services/year
 - b. \$1.6M for All Other
7. Current and incoming work for the Commission includes but is not limited to the statewide community outreach, public engagement, public training and public education, impacted community engagement, training and education and, engagement, training and education for Commissioners and staff mentioned above but also:
 - a. Truth and Reconciliation project- 2 year, statewide qualitative and quantitative research capturing in real-time the impacts of generational poverty and systemic racism. This will form the basis of the Commission's strategic plan for years to come.
 - b. Uncover entities, those who have benefited from and or profited from, and place names in the state that are tied to Maine and New England's involvement in the enslavement, genocide, and colonization of indigenous populations who trace their legacy to the Americas.
 - c. Professionalize the efforts begun in 2019 to ensure a permanent, efficient sustainable effort. Most importantly an accountable effort.
 - d. Develop appropriate partnerships and methodologies related to curriculum and pedagogy to decolonize public education.

Commented [1]: @rtalbotross@gmail.com
My recollection of these points is incomplete.
Would you please list them here?

Commented [2]: I had made changes to the initial draft. I'll try to do the same to this. Am still in a work session on my bill on tribal child support in Judiciary.

- e. Examination of the existing inequities in economic and community development in order to encourage the self determination, health, and wellbeing of impacted populations.
- f. Building the organizational capacity of the Commission.