An Act to Remove State Road Signs with Offensive Names from Interstate Route 95 and the Maine Turnpike.

Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.

MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND, Clerk

Presented by Representative SOCTOMAH of the Passamaquoddy Tribe.
Cosponsored by Senator CATHCART of Penobscot and Representatives: BROOKS of Winterport, HATCH of Skowhegan, NORBERT of Portland, TWOMEY of Biddeford, WATSON of Farmingdale.
Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 1 MRSA §1102, as enacted by PL 1977, c. 259, §1, is repealed and the following is enacted in its place:

§1102. Offensive names prohibited

1. Place in State may not have offensive name. A place in this State may not have or be given an offensive name.

2. Sign on interstate highway or Maine Turnpike may not contain offensive name. A sign placed by the State on an interstate highway or the Maine Turnpike may not contain an offensive name.

Sec. 2. 23 MRSA §1201, sub-§13, as repealed and replaced by PL 1971, c. 154, is amended to read:

13. Moosehead Lake Region. Such signs shall be constructed and maintained on the Maine Turnpike at the first reasonable opportunity northerly from the York exit and shall be worded as follows:

Moosehead Lake Region -- Squaw Big Moose Mountain -- 4 1/2 hours;

Sec. 3. Commissioner of Transportation shall replace signs. The Commissioner of Transportation shall replace a sign that is in violation of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 1, section 1102 with a sign that contains proper place names no later than 30 days after the effective date of this Act.

SUMMARY

This bill provides that a sign placed by the State on an interstate highway or the Maine Turnpike may not contain an offensive name, as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 1, section 1101. The bill directs the Commissioner of Transportation to replace a sign that violates this provision with a sign that contains proper place names no later than 30 days after the effective date of the bill.