

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2015

Legislative Document

No. 555

H.P. 379

House of Representatives, February 26, 2015

**An Act To Distribute a Portion of Proceeds from the Oxford Casino
to the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians and the Aroostook Band of
Micmacs**

Reference to the Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative BEAR of the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians.
Cosponsored by Senator WILLETTE of Aroostook and
Representative: DANA of the Passamaquoddy Tribe.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 8 MRSA §1036, sub-§2-A**, as amended by PL 2013, c. 118, §2, is further
3 amended to read:

4 **2-A. Distribution from casino of slot machine income.** A casino operator shall
5 collect and distribute ~~46%~~ 50% of the net slot machine income from slot machines
6 operated by the casino operator to the board for distribution by the board as follows:

7 A. Twenty-five percent of the net slot machine income must be forwarded directly
8 by the board to the Treasurer of State, who shall credit the money to the Department
9 of Education, to be used to supplement and not to supplant funding for essential
10 programs and services for kindergarten to grade 12 under Title 20-A, chapter 606-B;

11 B. Four percent of the net slot machine income must be forwarded by the board to
12 the University of Maine System Scholarship Fund created in Title 20-A, section
13 10909 and to the Board of Trustees of the Maine Maritime Academy to be applied by
14 the board of trustees to fund its scholarship program. The slot machine income under
15 this paragraph must be distributed as follows:

16 (1) The University of Maine System share is the total amount of the distribution
17 multiplied by the ratio of enrolled students in the system to the total number of
18 enrolled students both in the system and at the Maine Maritime Academy; and

19 (2) The Maine Maritime Academy share is the total amount of the distribution
20 multiplied by the ratio of enrolled students at the academy to the total number of
21 enrolled students both in the system and at the academy;

22 C. Three percent of the net slot machine income must be forwarded by the board to
23 the Board of Trustees of the Maine Community College System to be applied by the
24 board of trustees to fund its scholarships program under Title 20-A, section 12716,
25 subsection 1;

26 D. ~~Four~~ Eight percent of the net slot machine income must be forwarded by the
27 board to the Treasurer of State, who shall distribute the funds to the tribal
28 governments of the Penobscot Nation ~~and~~, the Passamaquoddy Tribe, the Aroostook
29 Band of Micmacs and the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians;

30 E. Three percent of the net slot machine income must be deposited to the General
31 Fund for administrative expenses of the board, including gambling addiction
32 counseling services, in accordance with rules adopted by the board;

33 F. Two percent of the net slot machine income must be forwarded directly to the
34 municipality in which the casino is located;

35 G. One percent of the net slot machine income must be forwarded by the board to the
36 Treasurer of State, who shall credit the money to the Agricultural Fair Support Fund
37 established in Title 7, section 91;

38 H. One percent of the net slot machine income must be forwarded by the board to the
39 Treasurer of State, who shall credit the money to the fund established in section 298
40 to supplement harness racing purses;

1 I. One percent of the net slot machine income must be credited by the board to the
2 Sire Stakes Fund created in section 281;

3 J. One percent of the net slot machine income must be forwarded directly to the
4 county in which the casino is located to pay for mitigation of costs resulting from
5 gaming operations;

6 L. Beginning July 1, 2013, 1/2 of 1% of the net slot machine income must be
7 forwarded by the board to the Treasurer of State, who shall credit the money to the
8 Maine Milk Pool, Other Special Revenue Funds account within the Department of
9 Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to help fund dairy farm stabilization pursuant
10 to Title 7, sections 3153-B and 3153-D; and

11 M. Beginning July 1, 2013, 1/2 of 1% of the net slot machine income must be
12 forwarded by the board to the Treasurer of State, who shall credit the money to the
13 Dairy Improvement Fund established under Title 10, section 1023-P.

14 If a recipient of net slot machine income in paragraph D, H or I owns or receives funds
15 from a slot machine facility or casino, other than the casino in Oxford County or the slot
16 machine facility in Bangor, then the recipient may not receive funds under this
17 subsection, and those funds must be retained by the Oxford County casino operator.

18 **SUMMARY**

19 This bill provides the Aroostook Band of Micmacs and the Houlton Band of Maliseet
20 Indians the same distribution of net slot machine income from casino slot machines
21 operated in Oxford County as is provided to the Penobscot Nation and the
22 Passamaquoddy Tribe under current law.