

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2019

Legislative Document

No. 1244

H.P. 905

House of Representatives, March 14, 2019

An Act To Authorize the Gambling Control Board To Accept an Application from the Passamaquoddy Tribe To Operate 50 Slot Machines in the Tribe's High-stakes Beano Facility

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

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

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative COLLINGS of Portland.
Cosponsored by Senator MOORE of Washington and
Representatives: COREY of Windham, HARRINGTON of Sanford, HICKMAN of Winthrop,
JOHANSEN of Monticello, NEWELL of the Passamaquoddy Tribe, O'CONNOR of Berwick,
PERRY of Calais, TALBOT ROSS of Portland.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 8 MRSA §1011, sub-§2-C** is enacted to read:

3 **2-C. Passamaquoddy Tribe eligible for license to operate slot machines.** The
4 board may accept an application from the Passamaquoddy Tribe for a license to operate
5 50 slot machines at a gambling facility in Washington County at which high-stakes beano
6 is conducted by the Passamaquoddy Tribe.

7 **Sec. 2. 8 MRSA §1018, sub-§1, ¶C**, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 687, Pt. A, §5 and
8 affected by Pt. B, §11, is amended to read:

9 C. The initial application fee for a slot machine operator license is \$200,000 except
10 that the initial application fee for the Passamaquoddy Tribe to operate 50 slot
11 machines at a gambling facility in Washington County is \$10,000. The annual
12 renewal fee is \$75,000 plus an amount, set by rules of the board, equal to the cost to
13 the board of licensing slot machine operators and determined by dividing the costs of
14 administering the slot machine operator licenses by the total number of slot machine
15 operators licensed by the board except that the annual renewal fee for the
16 Passamaquoddy Tribe to operate 50 slot machines at a gambling facility in
17 Washington County is \$5,000.

18 **Sec. 3. 8 MRSA §1018, sub-§1-A**, as enacted by PL 2011, c. 699, §2, is amended
19 to read:

20 **1-A. Fees for slot machine and casino operator licenses on or after September 1,**
21 **2012.** Notwithstanding subsection 1, paragraphs C and C-1, beginning September 1,
22 2012, an applicant for a slot machine operator license or a casino operator license must
23 pay a \$250,000 nonrefundable privilege fee to be submitted with the application for the
24 license and a minimum license fee, or cash bid if the license is part of a competitive
25 bidding process established by law, of \$5,000,000. This subsection does not apply to a
26 casino licensed for operation in the State as of September 1, 2012 or to the
27 Passamaquoddy Tribe's operation of 50 slot machines at a gambling facility in
28 Washington County.

29 **Sec. 4. 8 MRSA §1019, sub-§7**, as amended by PL 2011, c. 417, §6, is further
30 amended to read:

31 **7. Statewide and county referendum; municipal vote.** After January 1, 2011, any
32 proposed casino or slot machine facility may not be issued a license unless it has been
33 approved by a statewide referendum vote and a vote of the municipal officers or
34 municipality in which the casino or slot machine facility is to be located, except that a
35 commercial track licensed to operate slot machines on January 1, 2011 is only required,
36 as a condition to obtain a casino license, to receive approval to operate a casino by means
37 of a referendum of the voters of the county in which the commercial track is located.
38 Notwithstanding this subsection, the Passamaquoddy Tribe may obtain a license to
39 operate slot machines at a gambling facility in Washington County at which high-stakes
40 beano is conducted.

1 the General Fund and sets the initial application fee to operate the 50 slot machines at
2 \$10,000 and the renewal fee at \$5,000. The Passamaquoddy Tribe is exempted from
3 paying a \$250,000 nonrefundable privilege fee and a \$5,000,000 license fee. Slot
4 machines operated by the Passamaquoddy Tribe would be subject to the oversight of the
5 Gambling Control Board and subject to the same laws and rules as other slot machines
6 operated in this State.