

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2025

Legislative Document

No. 1264

H.P. 839

House of Representatives, March 25, 2025

**Resolve, Requiring the Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands
in the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to
Modify the Deed That Conveyed Montpelier, the General Henry
Knox Museum in Thomaston, to the Friends of Montpelier**

Reference to the Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry suggested and
ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative MATLACK of St. George.
Cosponsored by Senator BEEBE-CENTER of Knox.

Preamble. The Constitution of Maine, Article IX, Section 23 requires that real estate held by the State for conservation or recreation purposes may not be reduced or its uses substantially altered except on the vote of 2/3 of all members elected to each House.

Whereas, the land authorized for transfer by this resolve is within the designations in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 598-A; and

Whereas, the Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands within the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry may sell, lease or exchange lands with the approval of the Legislature in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, sections 1814, 1837 and 1851; now, therefore, be it

Sec. 1. Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands directed to modify the deed that conveyed Montpelier, the General Henry Knox Museum, consisting of historic site land, improvements, structures and historical collections, to the Friends of Montpelier. Resolved: That the Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands within the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry shall modify the deed that conveyed Montpelier, the General Henry Knox Museum, including 4.2 acres, more or less, of historic site land and related improvements, structures and historical collections, in the Town of Thomaston, Knox County, to the Friends of Montpelier, a nonprofit corporation, to remove the requirement that Montpelier be used for historic preservation and public education purposes and remove the reversion clause specifying that, if the Friends of Montpelier do not continue to use the building and the collections for public educational, historic or cultural purposes, the building and collections will revert to the Bureau of Parks and Lands.

SUMMARY

This bill directs the Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands within the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to modify the deed that conveyed Montpelier, the General Henry Knox Museum in the Town of Thomaston, to the Friends of Montpelier to remove the requirement that Montpelier be used for historic preservation and public education purposes and remove the reversion clause specifying that, if the Friends of Montpelier do not continue to use the building and collections for public educational, historic or cultural purposes, the building and collections will revert to the Bureau of Parks and Lands.