MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NINETY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document   No. 1018

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED FIFTY-FIVE

AN ACT Creating Voting Places for Indians.

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

R. S., c. 5, § 65-A, additional. Chapter 5 of the revised statutes is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to be numbered 65-A, to read as follows:

'**Sec. 65-A. Voting places for Indians.** The municipal officers of the city of Old Town are directed to establish a voting place on Indian Island in the county of Penobscot to be designated, "Old Town Indian Island Voting District," at which polling place all Indians residing on the Indian Island tribal reservation and otherwise qualified in accordance with section 1 of article II of the Maine Constitution shall vote in all State, county and national elections, including primary elections. A warden, ward clerk and as many election clerks, not less than 2 in number as said municipal officers may deem necessary, shall be selected for said Old Town Indian Island Voting District in the same manner as the warden, ward clerk and election clerks are selected for the several wards in the city of Old Town.

The municipal officers of the town of Princeton are directed to establish a voting place at Peter Dana Point in Indian Township in the county of Washington to be designated, "Peter Dana Point Voting District," at which polling place all Indians residing on the tribal reservation at Peter Dana Point and otherwise qualified in accordance with section 1 of article II of the Maine Constitution shall vote in all State, county and national elections, including primary elections. A warden, who shall be a resident of the town of Princeton, shall be appointed

by the municipal officers of said town to act as the presiding officer at said Peter Dana Point Voting District. Two election clerks, who shall be residents of the town of Princeton, shall be appointed by the selectmen in the same manner as provided in section 14.

The municipal officers of the town of Perry are directed to establish a voting place at Pleasant Point in the town of Perry and county of Washington to be designated, "Pleasant Point Voting District," at which polling place all Indians residing on the tribal reservation at Pleasant Point and otherwise qualified in accordance with section 1 of article II of the Maine Constitution shall vote in all State, county and national elections, including primary elections. A warden, who shall be a resident of the town of Perry, shall be appointed by the municipal officers of said town to act as the presiding officer at said Pleasant Point Voting District. Two election clerks, who shall be residents of the town of Perry, shall be appointed by the selectmen in the same manner as provided in section 14.

The Secretary of State shall furnish ballots and blank returns for said voting districts in accordance with the provisions of chapters 4 and 5. The ballots shall be sorted and counted and the return of the vote made to the city and town clerks in accordance with the provisions of section 39.

Election officials appointed to serve at the polling places hereby created shall be paid by the city of Old Town and towns of Princeton and Perry. They shall be paid at the same rate of compensation received by officials performing similar duties at the regularly established polling places in such municipalities. The city of Old Town and the towns of Princeton and Perry shall be reimbursed by the State from funds appropriated for support of the Indian tribes.

The fact that any Indian receives relief funds directly or indirectly from the State or any municipality shall not operate to give such Indian the status of a pauper so that he shall be denied on that account the right to vote.'