

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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December 11, 1975

Russell Socoby  
President  
The Association of Aroostook Indians, Inc.  
P.O. Box 223  
Houlton, Maine 04730

Dear Mr. Socoby:

This is a response to your letter dated December 5, 1975, inquiring whether a conflict of interest arises because of Mr. Terry Polchies' status as an employee of the Maine State Department of Indian Affairs and his position as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Association of Aroostook Indians, Inc.

Without knowing precisely what Mr. Polchies' responsibilities are with the Department of Indian Affairs, it is not possible to provide you with a definitive answer. However, in the absence of decision making responsibilities for the Department of Indian Affairs, it would not appear to be in conflict which would, as a matter of law, preclude Mr. Polchies from occupying both positions. This is not to say, however, that as a policy matter either the Department or the Association would discourage such duality of positions. In this connection I am enclosing a copy of a letter dated January 20, 1975, to Mrs. Helen Ciganik addressing a somewhat similar question.

Very truly yours,

MARTIN L. WILK  
Deputy Attorney General

MLW/ec  
Enclosure