

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 485

H. P. 393

House of Representatives, January 30, 1975

Referred to Committee on State Government. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Silverman of Calais.

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## STATE OF MAINE

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-FIVE

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### **AN ACT to Transfer Responsibility for Forest Management of Indian Township to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.**

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

22 **MRSA, § 4834, first ¶**, as last amended by PL 1973, c. 460, § 18, is further amended to read:

The ~~Director of the Bureau of Forestry~~ **Commissioner of Indian Affairs**, with the consent of the 2 Passamaquoddy tribal governors and tribal councils, may sell to the best advantage of the Passamaquoddy Tribe, at public or private sale, to a citizen of the State, the timber and grass from township numbered 2 on the St. Croix River, called Indian Township, expressly retaining in the written contract of sale a lien on the timber and grass cut, until the amount due for stumpage thereon is paid. Every surveyor appointed by said ~~Director of the Bureau of Forestry~~ **commissioner** to scale or survey the lumber so sold, before entering on his duties, shall be sworn to the faithful performance of his trust, and shall file a certificate of his oath with the ~~director~~ **commissioner**. From the gross income from the sale of timber and grass, the ~~Director of the Bureau of Forestry~~ **commissioner** shall make payment to the Treasurer of State to be allotted to the Bureau of Forestry on the basis of the state-wide annual per acre expenditure for forest fire protection for the last fiscal year for all lands within Indian Township not already paying a Maine Forestry District tax for the prevention, control and extinguishment of forest fires.

### STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to transfer the statutory authority for management of forest resources on Indian Township from the Director of the Bureau

of Forestry to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs. The technical services and advice of the Bureau of Forestry would be available to assist the Passamaquoddy Tribe, but the permissive statutory authority to manage the tribal lands would be eliminated.