

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(EMERGENCY)

ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 323

H. P. 254

House of Representatives, February 9, 1977

Referred to Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs. Sent up for concurrence and 1,800 ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Marshall of Millinocket.

Cosponsor: Mrs. Kane of Augusta.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-SEVEN

AN ACT Appropriating Funds for Defense of Indian Claims Litigation.

Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, there are currently pending and threatened against the State claims for both money and return of lands to Indians; and

Whereas, the Attorney General is currently preparing for defense of these claims and is in need of additional resources to defend the interest of the State and its citizens; and

Whereas, successful defense of Indian claims litigation is vital to the interests of the State of Maine; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

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

Appropriation. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of the Attorney General for the remainder of fiscal year 1976-77 the sum of \$16,000 to provide for hiring of experts to provide necessary technical assistance or historical research (\$10,000), to provide funds for an additional full-time attorney (\$4,000 for the remainder of fiscal year 1976-77), and to provide necessary equipment and payment of necessary expenses for the ad-

ditional attorney and generally for defense of Indian claims (\$2,000). Any unexpended balance shall not lapse, but shall remain a continuing carrying account to be expended for the same purpose. The breakdown shall be as follows:

ATTORNEY GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF

1976-77

| | | |
|-------------------|-----|----------|
| Personal Services | (1) | \$ 4,000 |
| All Other | | 11,500 |
| Capital | | 500 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | \$16,000 |

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act shall take effect when approved.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is reflected in the emergency preamble.