

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND TENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1301

S. P. 455

In Senate, March 16, 1981

Referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

MAY M. ROSS, Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator Brown of Washington

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-ONE

AN ACT to Require Public Hearings Prior to Proposing Exchanges of Public Reserved Lands.

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

12 MRSA § 552, sub-§ 3 is enacted to read:

3. Restriction. The director may not recommend the sale, exchange or other conveyance of any public lands or public reserved lots until he does the following:

A. Publishes notice of the conveyance in each newspaper of general circulation in the area affected at least 20 days prior to recommending the conveyance to the Legislature;

B. Notifies the county commissioners, regional planning commissions and municipal officers in the area affected; and

C. Conducts a public hearing in the area of the proposed conveyance.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The Bureau of Public Lands is negotiating a series of land exchanges to consolidate the state's holdings of public lots. Certain lots have been exchanged in Washington County for land to add to the Bigelow Preserve. This type of exchange can adversely affect local areas. This bill requires the Director of the Bureau of Public Lands to notify local officials and conduct a public hearing in the area affected before proposing such an exchange to the Legislature.