



114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 708

H.P. 523

House of Representatives, March 8, 1989

Reference to the Committee on Taxation suggested and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative FOSTER of Ellsworth.

STATE OF MAINE

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

An Act Concerning Taxation of Certain Business Enterprises.

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

Sec. 1. 36 MRSA §5102, sub-§6, as amended by PL 1985, c. 783, §18, is further amended to read:

6. Corporation. "Corporation" means any business entity subject to income taxation as a corporation under the laws of the United States, excepting corporations subject to tax under sections 2512 to 2522 and section 5206. It shall also mean the Passamaquoddy Tribe, the Penobscot Nation and any other Indian nation, tribe or band of Indians when acting in its business capacity as distinguished from its governmental capacity.

Sec. 2. 36 MRSA § 5102, sub-§8, as amended by PL 1987, c. 841, §2, is further amended to read:

17 8. Maine net income. "Maine net income" means, for any taxable year for any corporate taxpayer, the taxable income of 19 that taxpayer for that taxable year under the laws of the United States as modified by section 5200-A and apportionable to this 21 State under chapter 821. To the extent that it derives from a unitary business carried on by 2 or more members of an 23 affiliated group, the Maine net income of a corporation shall be determined by apportioning that part of the federal taxable income of the entire group which derives from the unitary 25 business, except income of an 80-20 corporation. <u>Maine net</u> income shall also include the income of the Passamaquoddy Tribe, 27 the Penobscot Nation and any other Indian nation, tribe or band of Indians when acting in its business capacity to the extent 29 such income would constitute federal taxable income as modified 31 by this subsection, if they were subject to taxation under the laws of the United States. The State Tax Assessor shall 33 prescribe by rule the methods and procedures to be used in accounting for items of income, deductions, loss or gain arising 35 from the business activity of Indian nations, tribes or bands.

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Sec. 3. 36 MRSA §5220, sub-§5-A is enacted to read:

 39 <u>5-A. Certain Indian nations, tribes or bands. The</u> <u>Passamaquoddy Tribe, the Penobscot Nation and any other Indian</u>
41 <u>nation, tribe or band of Indians with Maine net income for the</u> <u>calendar year</u>.

Sec. 4. 36 MRSA §5220, sub-§6, as enacted by PL 1987, c. 504, 45 §35, is repealed.

47 Sec. 5. Application. This Act shall apply to items of income, deductions, loss or gain accruing on or after January 1, 1988.
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STATEMENT OF FACT

3 The 1980 Act to Implement the Maine Indian Claims Settlement provides that the business enterprise activities of 5 the Passamaquoddy Tribe and the Penobscot Nation be subject to the Maine corporate income tax. However, the wording of present 7 law is not adequate because these Indian entities are not subject to the federal corporate income tax. This legislation 9 is intended to impose the state corporate income tax provisions on business profits and losses prospectively.

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