MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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116th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1993

Legislative Document

No. 1266

S.P. 409

In Senate, April 15, 1993

An Act to Allow a Casino to be Constructed by the Passamaquoddy Tribe in Calais for the Purpose of Gambling.

Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed.

JOY J. O'BRIEN Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator VOSE of Washington.
Cosponsored by Senators: BALDACCI of Penobscot, BERUBE of Androscoggin, CAREY of Kennebec, CIANCHETTE of Somerset, CONLEY of Cumberland, HALL of Piscataquis, HANDY of Androscoggin, LAWRENCE of York, MARDEN of Kennebec, TITCOMB of Cumberland, Representatives: CARR of Sanford, CARROLL of Gray, COTE of Auburn, DRISCOLL of Calais, GOULD of Greenville, HICHBORN of Howland, HUSSEY of Milo, JALBERT of Lisbon, JOSEPH of Waterville, LARRIVEE of Gorham, MARTIN of Van Buren, MORRISON of Bangor, PARADIS of Augusta, POULIOT of Lewiston, RICKER of Lewiston, ROTONDI of Athens, TARDY of Palmyra, TOWNSEND of Eastport, VIGUE of Winslow.

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

Sec. 1. 17 MRSA §348 is enacted to read:

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§348. Compact negotiations required

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Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Governor, upon receipt of a request by the Passamaquoddy Tribe, shall conduct good faith negotiations with the tribe in accordance with and pursuant to the terms of the federal Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, 25 United States Code, Section 2710(d) on behalf of the State to enter into a tribal-state compact governing the conduct of Class III electronic and table games of chance on any Passamaquoddy Indian Territory in Calais, Maine. Upon taking effect under the terms of the compact and the federal Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, a tribal-state compact with the Passamaquoddy Tribe has the force and effect of law and is the license of the tribe as that term is used in Title 17-A, section 951.

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Sec. 2. 30 MRSA §6205, sub-§1, ¶B, as amended by PL 1991, c. 720, §1 and affected by §2, is further amended to read:

B. The first 150,000 acres of land acquired by the secretary for the benefit of the Passamaquoddy Tribe from the following areas or lands to the extent that those lands are acquired by the secretary prior to January 31, 1991 2001, are not held in common with any other person or entity and are certified by the secretary by January 31, 1991 2001, as held for the benefit of the Passamaquoddy Tribe:

The lands of Great Northern Nekoosa Corporation located in T.1, R.8, W.B.K.P. (Lowelltown), T.6, R.1, N.B.K.P. (Holeb), T.2, R.10, W.E.L.S. and T.2, R.9, W.E.L.S.; the land of Raymidga Company located in T.1, R.5, W.B.K.P. (Jim Pond), T.4, R.5, B.K.P.W.K.R. (King and Bartlett), T.5, R.6, B.K.P.W.K.R. and T.3, R.5, B.K.P.W.K.R.; the land of the heirs of David Pingree located in T.6, R.8, W.E.L.S.; any portion of Sugar Island in Moosehead Lake; the lands of Prentiss and Carlisle Company located in T.9, S.D.; any portion of T.24, M.D.B.P.P.; the lands of Bertram C. Tackeff or Northeastern Blueberry Company, Inc. in T.19, M.D.B.P.P.; any portion of T.2, R.8, N.W.P.; any portion of T.2, R.5, W.B.K.P. (Alder Stream); the lands of Dead River Company in T.3, R.9, N.W.P., T.2, R.9, N.W.P., T.5, R.1, N.B.P.P. and T.5, N.D.B.P.P.; any portion of T.3, R.1, N.B.P.P.; any portion of T.3, N.D.; any portion of T.4, N.D.; any portion of T.39, M.D.; any portion of T.40, M.D.; any portion of T.41, M.D.; any portion of T.42, M.D.B.P.P.; the lands of Corporation, Diamond International International and Lincoln Pulp and Paper Company located in Company Argyle; and the lands of the Dyer Interests in T.A.R.7

W.E.L.S., T.3 R.9 N.W.P., T.3 R.3. N.B.K.P. (Alder Brook Township), T.3 R.4 N.B.K.P. (Hammond Township), T.2 R.4 N.B.K.P. (Pittston Academy Grant), T.2 R.3 N.B.K.P. (Soldiertown Township), and T.4 R.4 N.B.K.P. (Prentiss Township), and any lands in Albany Township acquired by the Passamaquoddy Tribe before January 1, 1991; and any lands in the City of Calais approved by the legislative body of that city for acquisition by the tribe.

Sec. 3. Tribal ratification. This Act is not effective unless, within 60 days of the adjournment of the Legislature, the Secretary of State receives written notification by the Joint Tribal Council of the Passamaquoddy Tribe that the tribe has agreed to the provisions of this Act pursuant to the United States Code, Title 25, Section 1725(e)(1), copies of which must be submitted by the Secretary of State to the Secretary of the Senate, the Clerk of the House of Representatives and the Office of the Revisor of Statutes.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill authorizes the Passamaquoddy Tribe to operate a casino on tribal land in Calais under the terms of a tribal-state compact to be negotiated and concluded under the terms of the compact and the federal Indian Gaming Regulatory Act. This ensures that the Passamaquoddy Tribe receives the full benefits granted to other federally recognized tribes under the federal Indian Gaming Regulatory Act. The bill also authorizes the Passamaquoddy Tribe to include land in Calais as part of Passamaquoddy Indian Territory with the approval of the Calais City Council. The bill also requires that the Passamaquoddy Tribe ratify the provisions of a tribal-state compact pursuant to the terms of the federal Settlement Act.