

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 117th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1995

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Legislative Document

No. 308

S.P. 125

In Senate, January 27, 1995

**An Act to Transfer Legislative Jurisdiction over Loring Air Force Base  
from the United States to the State.**

(EMERGENCY)

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Reference to the Committee on State and Local Government suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "May M. Ross".

MAY M. ROSS  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator KIEFFER of Aroostook.

Cosponsored by Senators: BUTLAND of Cumberland, LAWRENCE of York, PARADIS of Aroostook, Representatives: AHEARNE of Madawaska, CLUKEY of Houlton, DESMOND of Mapleton, DONNELLY of Presque Isle, GWADOSKY of Fairfield, JOY of Crystal, KNEELAND of Easton, MARTIN of Eagle Lake, O'NEAL of Limestone, ROBICHAUD of Caribou, SIROIS of Caribou, WHEELER of Bridgewater.

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

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6           **Whereas,** the Legislature must approve the retrocession by  
the United States Department of the Air Force of Loring Air Force  
Base; and

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10          **Whereas,** the removal of military personnel from Loring Air  
Force Base raises the need to accommodate local law enforcement  
jurisdiction by approving the retrocession; and

12  
14          **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  
16 necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and  
safety; now, therefore,

18  
20          **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

22          **Sec. 1. Loring Air Force Base; approval of transfer of legislative**  
**jurisdiction.** The United States Department of the Air Force having  
filed with the Governor by letter dated October 17, 1994 its  
24 notice of intention to relinquish and retrocede its exclusive  
legislative jurisdiction to the State over all areas of the  
26 Loring Air Force Base, the Loring Water System and the Loring  
Family Housing Annex in Presque Isle, Maine in which the United  
States presently holds legislative jurisdiction, pursuant to the  
28 Maine Revised Statutes, Title 1, section 8, the State hereby  
approves the transfer of legislative jurisdiction as proposed in  
30 the notice of intention.

32          **Sec. 2. Loring Air Force Base; description of land.** The existing  
34 land so affected is the Loring Air Force Base, inclusive of all  
land within the present boundaries of that base in the towns of  
36 Limestone and Caswell and the City of Caribou in Aroostook  
County; the Loring Water System in the Town of Connor and the  
38 City of Caribou in Aroostook County; and the Loring Family  
Housing Annex in the City of Presque Isle in Aroostook County.

40          **Sec. 3. Loring Air Force Base; legislative jurisdiction.** This Act  
42 confers legislative jurisdiction back to the State over all lands  
currently comprising the Loring Air Force Base, the Loring Water  
44 System and the Loring Family Housing Annex as of the date of  
recordation of both this Act and the notice of intention in the  
46 Registry of Deeds of Aroostook County.

48          **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the  
preamble, this Act takes effect when approved.

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## STATEMENT OF FACT

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6 This bill is designed to approve the transfer of legislative  
jurisdiction back to the State over all lands currently  
8 comprising the Loring Air Force Base in the towns of Limestone  
and Caswell and the City of Caribou; the Loring Water System in  
10 the Town of Connor and the City of Caribou; and the Loring Family  
Housing Annex in the City of Presque Isle in Aroostook County.

12 As a result of the removal of military personnel from Loring  
Air Force Base, Maine, incident to its closure on September 30,  
14 1994, retrocession of the Federal Government's exclusive  
jurisdiction is considered appropriate in order to accommodate  
16 local law enforcement on this installation.

18 Accordingly, pursuant to the authority in Title 10, United  
States Code, Section 2683, the Air Force provided notice to the  
20 Governor on October 17, 1994 that the United States relinquishes  
and retrocedes its exclusive jurisdiction over land at the Loring  
22 Air Force Base, the Loring Water System and the Loring Family  
Housing Annex in Presque Isle, Maine as indicated on the legal  
24 descriptions and maps attached to the notice. This retrocession  
is effective upon the recordation of the notice and this Act of  
26 the Legislature approving the transfer of jurisdiction in the  
Registry of Deeds of Aroostook County, the county where the  
28 affected lands are situated.

30 Through this bill, the United States will relinquish and  
retrocede its exclusive legislative jurisdiction to the State.  
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