



# **117th MAINE LEGISLATURE**

# **FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1995**

Legislative Document

No. 1536

S.P. 566

In Senate, May 18, 1995

An Act to Clarify the Municipal Bounds of the Town of Eliot.

(AFTER DEADLINE)

(EMERGENCY)

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 27. Reference to the Committee on State and Local Government suggested and ordered printed.

May Th.

MAY M. ROSS Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator LAWRENCE of York. Cosponsored by Representative MARSHALL of Eliot. **Emergency preamble. Whereas,** Acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, the current jurisdictional boundary for the Town of Eliot along the Piscataqua River and its tributaries remains uncertain; and

Whereas, the uncertainty of the location of the Town of Eliot's southern bounds along the Piscataqua River and its tributaries interferes with the orderly administration, operation and policing of the Town of Eliot and its harbors and waters; and

14 Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of 16 Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and 18 safety; now, therefore,

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

22

4

8

### Sec. 1. Mass. Laws of 1810, c. 74, §1 is amended to read:

24 Sec. 1. Kittery divided. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the 26 authority of the same, That all that part of the town of Kittery in the county of York, included within the limits of the jurisdiction formerly known as the second parish in said town, 28 the second parish being further described as including all of the 30 lands, submerged lands and waters within the bounds as follows: starting at the division line beginning at the mouth of the Great 32 Cove below the point of land heretofore and presently known as Thomas Spinney's Point or Spinney's Point, running northerly and 34 westerly up through the middle of the Great Cove to the head of the cove as lies due southwest of the bridge formerly known as 36 Gowell's Bridge, then continuing northeasterly along the bounds of the Town of Kittery to the bounds of the Town of York, thence continuing west and northerly to the southern bounds of the Town 38 of South Berwick, then continuing west to the middle of the 40 Piscataqua or Salmon Falls Rivers, then continuing southerly and easterly down the middle of the Piscataqua River and then to the 42 point of the beginning, the bounds including and comprising all of the lands, submerged lands and waters contained therein, be, 44 and hereby is incorporated into a separate town, by the name of Eliot, with all the powers, privileges, and immunities, with which other towns are invested by the constitution and laws of 46 this commonwealth and the State of Maine. 48

Sec. 2. Application. Notwithstanding the Maine Revised 50 Statutes, Title 1, section 302, the provisions of this Act govern all actions and proceedings pending on the effective date of this 52 Act. **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act takes effect when approved.

2

4

6

#### STATEMENT OF FACT

8 The purpose of this bill is to clarify and confirm that the Town of Eliot's municipal jurisdiction extends to and includes 10 those lands located within the Piscataqua River immediately adjacent to the Town of Eliot and to further clarify that the 12 town's jurisdictional bounds along the Piscataqua River and its tributaries are consistent and conterminous with the southern 14 boundary of the State of Maine as settled by the decree issued by the United States Supreme Court in the case <u>State of New Hampshire v. State of Maine</u>, 434 U.S. 1 (1977).