

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

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Legislative Document

No. 540

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H.P. 398

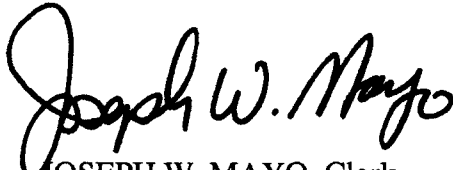
House of Representatives, January 19, 1999

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**Resolve, Authorizing the Transfer of Certain State Historic Site Property.**

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Submitted by the Department of Conservation pursuant to Joint Rule 204.  
Reference to the Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry suggested and ordered printed.

  
JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative SKOGLUND of St. George.  
Cosponsored by Senator PINGREE of Knox and  
Representatives: McNEIL of Rockland, PIEH of Bremen, POWERS of Rockport, SAVAGE  
of Union.

2           **Preamble.** Whereas, the Constitution of Maine, Article IX,  
3 Section 23 requires that real estate held by the State for  
4 conservation purposes may not be reduced or its uses  
5 substantially altered except on the vote of 2/3 of all members  
6 elected to each House; and

7           Whereas, the land authorized for transfer by this resolve is  
8 within the designations in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12,  
9 section 598-A; and

10           Whereas, the Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands  
11 within the Department of Conservation may sell and convey lands  
12 with the approval of the Governor and the Commissioner of  
13 Conservation in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title  
14 12, section 1814; now, therefore, be it

15           **Sec. 1. Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands authorized to**  
16 **convey Montpelier, the General Henry Knox Museum, consisting of historic**  
17 **site land, improvements, structures and historical collections, to the Friends**  
18 **of Montpelier. Resolved:** That the Director of the Bureau of Parks  
19 and Lands within the Department of Conservation may by deed and  
20 gift agreement convey Montpelier, the General Henry Knox Museum,  
21 including 4.2 acres, more or less, of historic site land and  
22 related improvements, structures and historical collections, in  
23 the Town of Thomaston, Knox County, to the Friends of Montpelier,  
24 a nonprofit corporation, to be used for historic preservation and  
25 public education purposes.

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## SUMMARY

28           This resolve authorizes the transfer of certain property  
29 associated with Montpelier, the General Henry Knox Museum, from  
30 the State to the Friends of Montpelier. The property, including  
31 a reproduction of the 1794 Montpelier structure and a historical  
32 decorative and fine arts collection, was donated to the State by  
33 the Knox Memorial Association in 1965. From that time until  
34 1995, the property was operated by the Bureau of Parks and Lands.

35           In 1995, the bureau leased the property to the Friends of  
36 Montpelier for management and operation. The Friends of  
37 Montpelier have managed and operated the property as lessees,  
38 keeping it open to the public and protecting the structure and  
39 the historical collections housed therein.

40           The deed and gift agreement would require that the property  
41 and historical collections be used exclusively for historic  
42 preservation and public education purposes.

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