

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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M
R.S.

L.D. 1694

DATE: 5-4-99

(Filing No. H-409)

STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
119TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1184, L.D. 1694, "Resolve, to Grant Salvage Rights for Revolutionary War Vessels Submerged in the Penobscot River to the Brewer Historical Society and the Bangor Historical Society"

Amend the resolve by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'Resolve, to Direct the Maine State Museum and the Maine Historic Preservation Commission to Include, Consult and Involve Local Historical Societies and Affected Municipalities in the Recovery and Local Display of Certain Revolutionary War Artifacts'

Further amend the resolve in the 2nd indented paragraph in the last line (page 1, line 7 in resolve) by inserting after the following: "Bangor" the following: 'and other municipalities located along the shores of the Penobscot River'

Further amend the resolve by striking out all of the 4th indented paragraph (page 1, lines 13 to 16 in resolve) and inserting in its place the following:

'Whereas, the possibility exists that private or public dredging of the Penobscot River in the area where the vessels are submerged may occur in the future in order to ensure unimpeded passage of vessels on the river; and

Whereas, the Maine State Museum and the Maine Historic Preservation Commission are charged with ensuring the proper recovery, restoration and preservation of archaeological artifacts under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 27, chapter 2; and'

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

A. S.

2 Further amend the resolve by striking out all of section 1
and inserting in its place the following:

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6 **'Sec. 1. Maine Historic Preservation Commission and the Maine
State Museum directed to include, consult and involve local historical
societies and affected municipalities in the recovery and local display of
8 certain Revolutionary War artifacts. Resolved:** That the Maine
Historic Preservation Commission and the Maine State Museum are
10 directed to consult with and to involve the historical societies
of the City of Brewer and the City of Bangor and other historical
12 societies, or municipal officers or their designees of
municipalities located along the Penobscot River, in the
14 development of plans to study the Penobscot Expedition shipwrecks
prior to any public or private dredging of the Penobscot River.
16 The study must include mechanisms to ensure that:

18 1. The artifacts are properly recovered and conserved in
accordance with state and federal law;

20 2. The artifacts, once recovered and restored, are
22 displayed for the benefit of the public in one or more
appropriate local repositories; and

24 3. Both public and private funding of the recovery,
26 restoration and local display of the artifacts are encouraged.
Funding sources may include, but are not limited to, local
28 government, State Government, Federal Government or private
sector funds; and be it further

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32 **Sec. 2. State required to retain archaeological preservation and
protection responsibilities. Resolved:** That nothing in this resolve
authorizes the State, through the Maine State Museum or the Maine
34 Historic Preservation Commission, to transfer or surrender its
responsibilities to preserve and protect archaeological sites
36 under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 27, chapter 13,
subchapter II.'

38
40 Further amend the resolve by inserting at the end before the
summary the following:

42
44 **'FISCAL NOTE**

46 The additional costs associated with consulting and
involving local historical societies and affected municipalities
48 in the recovery and local display of certain Revolutionary War
artifacts can be absorbed by the Maine Historic Preservation
Commission and the Maine State Museum utilizing existing budgeted
50 resources.'

SUMMARY

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This amendment amends the original resolve to require the Maine State Museum and the Maine Historic Preservation Commission to include, consult and involve the historical societies of Brewer and Bangor and other communities along the banks of the Penobscot River in the salvage and local display of Revolutionary War-era artifacts submerged in the Penobscot River. The amendment also adds a requirement that any study of the salvage of Penobscot Expedition artifacts from the Penobscot River encourage a variety of public and private funding sources for any recovery project or local display effort. It deletes from the original resolve the granting of the salvage rights to the Brewer and Bangor historical societies.