MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2022

Legislative Document

No. 1981

S.P. 712

In Senate, February 16, 2022

Resolve, Authorizing the Bureau of Parks and Lands To Authorize Additional Construction and Installations Related to a Telecommunications Tower on Bald Mountain in the Town of Rangeley

(AFTER DEADLINE)

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 205.

Reference to the Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry suggested and ordered printed.

DAREK M. GRANT Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator BLACK of Franklin.
Cosponsored by Representative HALL of Wilton and

Senator: KEIM of Oxford, Representatives: LANDRY of Farmington, SKOLFIELD of Weld.

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

Whereas, certain real estate authorized for lease by this resolve is under the designations in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 598-A; and

Whereas, the Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands within the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry may lease lands in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, sections 1814, 1838 and 1852; and

Whereas, the Bureau of Parks and Lands within the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry is a lessor of certain land near the summit of Bald Mountain in the Town of Rangeley under a lease, dated August 31, 2011, pursuant to which RCC Atlantic, Inc., c/o Verizon Wireless, is the lessee, with American Tower a sublessee of RCC Atlantic, Inc., and American Tower subleases approximately 2 acres of that property from RCC Atlantic, Inc., on which American Tower presently operates a commercial telecommunications tower; now, therefore, be it

- Sec. 1. Director of Bureau of Parks and Lands authorized to allow certain actions related to the lease of certain land within the Bald Mountain public reserved lands in the Town of Rangeley. Resolved: That the Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands within the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry may authorize RCC Atlantic, Inc. and American Tower to take the following actions on certain land within the Bald Mountain public reserved lands in the Town of Rangeley on which American Tower operates a commercial telecommunications tower pursuant to a lease dated August 31, 2011 under which the bureau is the lessor, RCC Atlantic, Inc. is the lessee and American Tower is a sublessee:
- 1. Construct an extension at the top of the existing tower, with the extension not to exceed the height of the existing tower by more than 18 feet;
- 2. Construct an additional custom shelter at the base of the tower with an associated generator; and
- 3. Allow the installation of communications equipment on the tower by an additional wireless communications company, with the goal of improving local wireless communications service and emergency telecommunications service in the region.

Except as provided in this section, any authorization granted to RCC Atlantic, Inc. or American Tower must be in accordance with the August 31, 2011 lease entered into between the Bureau of Parks and Lands and RCC Atlantic, Inc.

SUMMARY

This resolve authorizes the Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands within the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to authorize the construction of an extension to a telecommunications tower on property located on Bald Mountain in the Town of Rangeley, construction of an additional custom shelter at the base of the tower with an associated generator and installation of communications equipment on the tower by an additional wireless communications company.