

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**EIGHTIETH LEGISLATURE**

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**HOUSE**

**NO. 93**

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House of Representatives, February 11, 1921.

Referred to Committee on Indian Affairs and 500 copies ordered printed. Sent up for concurrence.

CLYDE R. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Blanchard of Old Town.

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**STATE OF MAINE**

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**IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND  
NINE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-ONE**

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AN ACT to Amend Sections Twelve, Thirteen and Fifteen of Chapter Fourteen of the Revised Statutes, Relating to Adoption into the Penobscot Tribe of Indians.

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

Section 1. Section twelve of chapter fourteen of the revised statutes is hereby amended by striking out all of the words of said section to and including the word "membership" in the third line and inserting in lieu thereof the words "The Penobscot Tribe of Indians at any regularly held meeting may, by a majority vote of the members thereof, adopt into said tribe any person who is in whole or in part of Indian blood, and who has had his or her resi-

9 dence for at least one year next preceding such adoption  
10 upon any reservation of said tribe.

And said section twelve is hereby further amended by  
2 striking out all of the words of line six after the word  
3 “tribe” in said section and the words of line seven to and  
4 including the word “conclusive”; and also by striking out  
5 the last two words of the last line of said section and insert-  
6 ing in lieu thereof the words ‘tribe as above provided,’ so  
7 that said section twelve as amended shall read as follows:

‘Sect. 12. Tribe by Majority Vote May Adopt Persons  
2 into Tribe. The Penobscot Tribe of Indians at any regu-  
3 larly held meeting may, by a majority vote of the mem-  
4 bers thereof, adopt into said tribe any person who is in  
5 whole or in part of Indian blood, and who has had his or  
6 her residence for at least one year next preceding such  
7 adoption upon any reservation of said tribe. The adoption  
8 of a child by any member of the tribe under ordinary legal  
9 process shall not of itself constitute such child a member  
10 of said tribe; but the power of adoption into the tribe shall  
11 in all cases rest with the aforesaid tribe as above provided.’

Sect. 2. Section thirteen of said chapter fourteen of the  
2 revised statutes is hereby amended by striking out the  
3 words “tribal committee” in the first line thereof and in-  
4 serting in lieu thereof the word ‘tribe,’ so that said section  
5 thirteen as amended shall read as follows:

‘Sect. 13. Certificate of Adoption Shall Be Filed with  
2 Agent. Whenever said tribe shall vote to adopt any person  
3 into said tribe, a certificate of such vote of adoption shall

4 be signed by the person presiding at the meeting, and said  
5 certificate shall be filed with the agent of said tribe; and  
6 said adopted person shall thereafter be deemed and ac-  
7 cepted to be a member of said tribe for all intents and pur-  
8 poses, and shall be enrolled as such upon the list of its  
9 members.'

Sect. 3. Section fifteen of said chapter fourteen of the  
2 revised statutes is hereby amended by striking out the  
3 words "its tribal committee" in the first line of Article II  
4 and inserting in lieu thereof the words 'a majority vote of  
5 the members of said tribe,' and also by adding thereto the  
6 words 'as amended by this Act,' so that said section fifteen  
7 as amended shall read as follows::

'Sect. 15. Membership, How Acquired. Membership in  
2 the Penobscot Tribe of Indians may, after March twenty-  
3 two, nineteen hundred and one, be acquired only as follows:

I. By birth.

II. By adoption into the tribe as determined by a ma-  
2 jority vote of the members of said tribe, in accordance  
3 with the provisions of sections twelve and thirteen as  
4 amended by this Act.

III. By marriage to a male member of said tribe; but  
2 membership by marriage can be acquired only by such per-  
3 sons as are in whole or in part of Indian blood, and it shall  
4 not include the previous issue of the person acquiring it.'