



**MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE**  
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**131st Legislature (2022-2024)**

**History and Final Disposition**

LD 2004 / HP1284

An Act to Restore Access to Federal Laws Beneficial to the Wabanaki Nations. Presented by Speaker TALBOT ROSS of Portland. Referred to the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary. Public Hearing 05/31/23. Majority (OTP-AM) Report Accepted 06/21/23. Amended by: CA H-658. Final Disposition: Enacted. (Veto Sustained 07/06/23).

**Original Bill**

[LD 2004 \(131st Legis. 2023\)](#)

**Committee Materials**

Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary

- (Master file available on request—please include citation:cf131-LD-2004.pdf)

[Public Hearing \(Audio File\) \(JUD\) \(05/31/2023\)](#)

[Work Session \(Audio File\) \(JUD\) \(06/06/2023\)](#)

[Work Session \(Audio File\) \(JUD\) \(06/15/2023\)](#)

- (Click audio link on committee page. Audio files may cover several bills.)

**New Drafts and Amendments**

[Amendment CA \(H-658\) \(LD 2004 2023\) \(Passed\)](#)

**Floor Proceedings and Debate**

[HOUSE, May 30, 2023 \(H-570-583\)](#)

p. H-570

[SENATE, May 30, 2023 \(S-830-850\)](#)

p. S-850

[HOUSE, June 21, 2023 \(H-968-1016\)](#)

p. H-972 (Remarks) (Roll Call(s)(p975)) (Amendment(s) H-658)

[HOUSE, June 21, 2023 \(H-968-1016\)](#)

p. H-998 (Amendment(s) H-658)

[SENATE, June 21, 2023 \(S-1328-1413\)](#)

p. S-1375 (Remarks) (Roll Call(s)(p1378)) (Amendment(s) H-658)

[SENATE, June 21, 2023 \(S-1328-1413\)](#)

p. S-1404 (Amendment(s) H-658)

[HOUSE, July 6, 2023 \(H-1132-1152\)](#)

p. H-1132

[HOUSE, July 6, 2023 \(H-1132-1152\)](#)

p. H-1134 (Remarks) (Roll Call(s)(p1137)) (Amendment(s) H-658)

### Cross References

U.S. Public Law 96-420, 102-171

### News Articles

Tribal rights effort likely won't happen until 2024 (Michael Shepherd) (Bangor Daily News, 5/23/2023, p. A1, A2) • (Available on request—please include the following citation: 131/LD20xx/nc131-LD-2004/BDN 230523A.pdf)

Last-minute bill would let tribes benefit from federal laws (Randy Billings) (Portland Press Herald, 5/31/2023, p. A1, A5) • (Available on request—please include the following citation: 131/LD20xx/nc131-LD-2004/PPH 230531B.pdf)

Gov Mills opposes bill letting tribes benefit from federal laws (Randy Billings) (Portland Press Herald, 6/1/2023, p. A1, A6) • (Available on request—please include the following citation: 131/LD20xx/nc131-LD-2004/PPH 230601A.pdf)

Bill would add federal benefits for tribes (David Sharp) (Bangor Daily News, 6/2/2023, p. B5) • (Available on request—please include the following citation: 131/LD20xx/nc131-LD-2004/BDN 230602G.pdf)

Agreement on tribal bill eludes lawmakers (Penelope Overton) (Portland Press Herald, 6/7/2023, p. A1, A5) • (Available on request—please include the following citation: 131/LD20xx/nc131-LD-2004/PPH 230607A.pdf)

Slow and steady talks are best route for Maine tribes (Jim Fossel) (Maine Sunday Telegram, 6/12/2023, p. D1, D4) • (Available on request—please include the following citation: 131/LD20xx/nc131-LD-2004/MST 230611E.pdf)

Committee endorses tribal rights bill, despite likely veto (Emma Kilbride) (Portland Press Herald, 6/16/2023, p. A1, A5) • (Available on request—please include the following citation: 131/LD20xx/nc131-LD-2004/PPH 230616B.pdf)

Mills' opposition appears likely to kill tribal-rights bill in Augusta (Billy Kobin) (Bangor Daily News, 6/20/2023, p. A1, A5) • (Available on request—please include the following citation: 131/LD20xx/nc131-LD-2004/BDN 230617A.pdf)

Breaking the logjam (Mark Rains) (Bangor Daily News, 6/21/2023, p. A8) • (Available on request—please include the following citation: 131/LD20xx/nc131-LD-2004/BDN 230621C.pdf)

Maine House backs tribal-rights bill (Michael Shepherd) (Bangor Daily News, 6/22/2023, p. A1, A2) • (Available on request—please include the following citation: 131/LD20xx/nc131-LD-2004/BDN 230622B.pdf)

Support LD 2004 (Roberta Beavers) (Bangor Daily News, 6/22/2023, p. A6) • (Available on request—please include the following citation: 131/LD20xx/nc131-LD-2004/BDN 230622G.pdf)

In House and Senate support for tribal rights wins the day (Randy Billings and Penelope Overton) (Portland Press Herald, 6/22/2023, p. A1, A6) • (Available on request—please include the following citation: 131/LD20xx/nc131-LD-2004/PPH 230622B.pdf)

The fates of Maine tribal-rights, abortion bills may be linked (Michael Shepherd) (Bangor Daily News, 6/23/2023, p. A5) • (Available on request—please include the following citation: 131/LD20xx/nc131-LD-2004/BDN 230623D.pdf)

Treat Wabanaki fairly (Alex Silver) (Bangor Daily News, 6/26/2023, p. A6) ● (Available on request—please include the following citation: 131/LD20xx/nc131-LD-2004/BDN 230626B.pdf)

Justice is years overdue for tribes in Maine (Roberta B. Beavers) (Portland Press Herald, 6/26/2023, p. A4) ● (Available on request—please include the following citation: 131/LD20xx/nc131-LD-2004/PPH 230624C.pdf)

Override Gov Mills sovereignty veto (Robert Stevens) (Maine Sunday Telegram, 7/5/2023, p. D2) ● (Available on request—please include the following citation: 131/LD20xx/nc131-LD-2004/MST 230702D.pdf)

Mills vetoes tribal access to more federal laws (Billy Kobin) (Bangor Daily News, 7/6/2023, p. A1, A5) ● (Available on request—please include the following citation: 131/LD20xx/nc131-LD-2004/BDN 23070102C.pdf)

On tribal rights Maine republicans need to declare independence from Mills (John Andrews) (Bangor Daily News, 7/6/2023, p. A9) ● (Available on request—please include the following citation: 131/LD20xx/nc131-LD-2004/BDN 230704D.pdf)

Tribal-rights bill forcing showdown in House (Billy Kobin) (Bangor Daily News, 7/6/2023, p. A1, A2) ● (Available on request—please include the following citation: 131/LD20xx/nc131-LD-2004/BDN 230705A.pdf)

Wabanaki leaders working to shore up support for bill (Kevin Miller) (Bangor Daily News, 7/6/2023, p. A1, A2) ● (Available on request—please include the following citation: 131/LD20xx/nc131-LD-2004/BDN 230705B.pdf)

Legislature can begin to heal tribal-state relations by overriding governor's veto (Donna Loring and Eric Mehnert) (Bangor Daily News, 7/6/2023, p. A7) ● (Available on request—please include the following citation: 131/LD20xx/nc131-LD-2004/BDN 230705D.pdf)

Legislators flip to uphold Mills' veto on tribal rights (Billy Kobin) (Bangor Daily News, 7/7/2023, p. A1, A2) ● (Available on request—please include the following citation: 131/LD20xx/nc131-LD-2004/BDN 230707A.pdf)

Injustices toward tribes (Rebecca Boulos) (Bangor Daily News, 7/7/2023, p. A8) ● (Available on request—please include the following citation: 131/LD20xx/nc131-LD-2004/BDN 230707E.pdf)

Local legislators vote on abortion, paid family leave (Stephen Betts) (Courier-Gazette, 7/7/2023, p. A6) ● (Available on request—please include the following citation: 131/LD20xx/nc131-LD-2004/Courier-Gazette 230629D.pdf)

Effort to override veto of tribal bill fails (Penelope Overton) (Portland Press Herald, 7/7/2023, p. A1, A4) ● (Available on request—please include the following citation: 131/LD20xx/nc131-LD-2004/PPH 230707A.pdf)

Why I vetoed LD 2004 (Janet Mills) (Machias Valley News Observer, 7/12/2023, p. 6) ● (Available on request—please include the following citation: 131/LD20xx/nc131-LD-2004/Machias Valley News Observer 230712A.pdf)

Maine House sustains Mills veto of tribal rights bill (Will Tuell) (Machias Valley News Observer, 7/12/2023, p. 18) ● (Available on request—please include the following citation: 131/LD20xx/nc131-LD-2004/Machias Valley News Observer 230712C.pdf)

Bill would let tribes benefit from federal laws (Edward French) (Quoddy Tides, 7/12/2023, p. 1, 21) ● (Available on request—please include the following citation: 131/LD20xx/nc131-LD-2004/Clip23270.pdf)

Effort to override veto of tribal sovereignty bill fails (Stephen Betts) (Courier-Gazette, 7/13/2023, p. A3, A8) ● (Available on request—please include the following citation: 131/LD20xx/nc131-LD-2004/Courier-Gazette 230713B.pdf)

Match sovereignty rhetoric with reality (David W Emerson) (Maine Sunday Telegram, 8/14/2023, p. D2) ● (Available on request—please include the following citation: 131/LD20xx/nc131-LD-2004/MST 230813G.pdf)

Tribal leaders react to upholding of veto of Wabanaki rights bill (Edward French) (Quoddy Tides, 8/18/2023, p. 1, 27) ● (Available on request—please include the following citation: 131/LD20xx/nc131-LD-2004/Clip23347.pdf)

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