



# 130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2021

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Legislative Document

No. 361

H.P. 259

House of Representatives, February 8, 2021

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**An Act To Establish a Permanent Appointment of a Member of the  
Wabanaki Tribes to the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Advisory  
Council**

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Received by the Clerk of the House on February 4, 2021. Referred to the Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

*R. B. Hunt*

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative NEWELL of the Passamaquoddy Tribe.  
Cosponsored by Senator MOORE of Washington and  
Representatives: COLLINGS of Portland, GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach, HEPLER of  
Woolwich, McDONALD of Stonington, PERRY of Calais, Senators: CURRY of Waldo, DILL  
of Penobscot.

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

2                   **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §10151, sub-§1**, as amended by PL 2013, c. 375, §1, is further  
3                   amended to read:

4                   **1. Appointment.** The Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Advisory Council, established by  
5                   Title 5, section 12004-G, subsection 20 and referred to in this Part as the "advisory council,"  
6                   consists of 11 members, with 10 members representing the 16 counties of the State in the  
7                   following manner: one member representing Androscoggin County, Kennebec County and  
8                   Sagadahoc County; one member representing Aroostook County; one member representing  
9                   Cumberland County; one member representing Franklin County and Oxford County; one  
10                  member representing Hancock County; one member representing Knox County, Lincoln  
11                  County and Waldo County; one member representing Penobscot County; one member  
12                  representing Piscataquis County and Somerset County; one member representing  
13                  Washington County; and one member representing York County. The 11th member must  
14                  be a member of the Wabanaki Tribes. Members of the advisory council are appointed by  
15                  the Governor, subject to review by the joint standing committee of the Legislature having  
16                  jurisdiction over fisheries and wildlife matters and to confirmation by the Legislature. The  
17                  Governor shall appoint the member who is a member of the Wabanaki Tribes based on the  
18                  recommendation of the tribal governments of the Wabanaki Tribes, including the  
19                  Aroostook Band of Micmacs, the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians, the Passamaquoddy  
20                  Tribe at Motahmikuk, the Passamaquoddy Tribe at Sipayik and the Penobscot Nation. In  
21                  recommending the appointment of the member who is a member of the Wabanaki Tribes,  
22                  the tribal governments of the Wabanaki Tribes shall establish a process that provides for  
23                  the membership to rotate among the tribal governments. The commissioner or the  
24                  commissioner's designee is a nonvoting, ex officio member of the advisory council, but  
25                  may vote to break a tie.

26                  An employee of the department may not serve as a member of the advisory council prior  
27                  to the expiration of one year from that employee's last day of employment with the  
28                  department. A Legislator may not serve as a member of the advisory council. A former  
29                  Legislator who was a member of the joint standing committee of the Legislature having  
30                  jurisdiction over fisheries and wildlife matters may not serve as a member of the advisory  
31                  council prior to the expiration of one year from that former Legislator's last day of  
32                  membership on that committee.

33                   **SUMMARY**

34                  This bill increases the membership of the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Advisory  
35                  Council by adding a member who represents the Wabanaki Tribes.