

## Union Calendar No. 432

117<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 6707

[Report No. 117-599]

To amend the Maine Indian Claims Settlement Act of 1980 to advance equality for Wabanaki nations, and for other purposes.

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### IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 11, 2022

Mr. GOLDEN (for himself and Ms. PINGREE) introduced the following bill;  
which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

DECEMBER 7, 2022

Additional sponsors: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. SOTO,  
Mr. COSTA, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. CASE, and Mrs. TRAHAN

DECEMBER 7, 2022

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole  
House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italie*]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on February 11, 2022]

# **A BILL**

To amend the Maine Indian Claims Settlement Act of 1980 to advance equality for Wabanaki nations, and for other purposes.

1        *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4        *This Act may be cited as the “Advancing Equality for*  
5 *Wabanaki Nations Act”.*

6 **SEC. 2. APPLICATION OF CERTAIN LAWS.**

7        *(a) APPLICATION OF STATE LAWS.—The Maine In-*  
8 *dian Claims Settlement Act of 1980 (Public Law 96–420)*  
9 *is amended—*

10            *(1) in section 3—*

11                    *(A) in subsection (m), by striking “and” at*  
12 *the end;*

13                    *(B) in subsection (n), by striking the period*  
14 *and inserting “; and”; and*

15                    *(C) by adding at the end the following:*

16                    *“(o) ‘Mi’kmaq Nation’ means the sole successor*  
17 *to the Micmac Nation as constituted in aboriginal*  
18 *times in what is now the State of Maine, and all its*  
19 *predecessors and successors in interest, and which is*  
20 *represented, as of the date of enactment of this sub-*  
21 *section, as to lands within the United States, by the*  
22 *Mi’kmaq Council.”; and*

23            *(2) in section 6—*

1           (A) in subsection (a), by striking “provided  
2           in section 8(e) and section 5(d)(4)” and insert-  
3           ing “otherwise provided in this Act”; and

4           (B) in subsection (h)—

5           (i) by striking “Except as other wise  
6           provided in this Act, the” and inserting  
7           “The”;

8           (ii) by inserting “or enacted for the  
9           benefit of” before “Indians, Indian nations”  
10          the second place it appears;

11          (iii) by inserting “that is in effect as  
12          of the date of the enactment of the Advanc-  
13          ing Equality for Wabanaki Nations Act,  
14          (2)” after “United States (1)”;

15          (iv) by striking “also (2)” and insert-  
16          ing “also (3)”; and

17          (v) by inserting “, unless Federal law  
18          or the State laws of Maine provide for the  
19          application of such Federal law or regula-  
20          tion” before the period at the end.

21          (b) IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INDIAN CHILD WEL-  
22          FARE ACT.—Section 8 of the Maine Indian Claims Settle-  
23          ment Act of 1980 (Public Law 96–420) is amended—

24               (1) in subsection (a)—

1           (A) by striking “or” after “Passamaquoddy  
2           Tribe” and inserting a comma;

3           (B) by inserting “, the Houlton Band of  
4           Maliseet Indians, or the Mi’kmaq Nation” after  
5           “Penobscot Nation”; and

6           (C) in the second sentence, by striking “re-  
7           spective tribe or nation” each place it appears  
8           and inserting “respective tribe, nation, or band”;  
9           (2) in subsection (b)—

10           (A) by striking “or” after “Passamaquoddy  
11           Tribe” and inserting a comma; and

12           (B) by inserting “, the Houlton Band of  
13           Maliseet Indians, or the Mi’kmaq Nation” after  
14           “Penobscot Nation”;

15           (3) by striking subsection (e);

16           (4) by redesignating subsection (f) as subsection  
17           (e); and

18           (5) in subsection (e), as so redesignated—

19           (A) by striking “or” after “Passamaquoddy  
20           Tribe” and inserting a comma;

21           (B) by inserting “, the Houlton Band of  
22           Maliseet Indians, or the Mi’kmaq Nation” after  
23           “Penobscot Nation”; and

24           (C) by striking “or nation” and inserting “,  
25           nation, or band”.

1           (c) *CONSTRUCTION.*—*Section 16 of the Maine Indian*  
2 *Claims Settlement Act of 1980 (Public Law 96–420) is*  
3 *amended—*

4                   (1) *by striking “(a)” at the beginning; and*

5                   (2) *by striking subsection (b).*

6           (d) *AMENDMENT TO THE AROOSTOOK BAND OF*  
7 *MICMACS SETTLEMENT ACT.*—*The Aroostook Band of*  
8 *Micmacs Settlement Act (Public Law 102–171) is amended*  
9 *by striking section 8.*



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