



130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 453

H.P. 329

House of Representatives, February 16, 2021

**An Act To Establish a Permanent Appointment of a Member of the
Wabanaki Tribes to the Board of Trustees of the University of
Maine System**

Received by the Clerk of the House on February 11, 2021. Referred to the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative NEWELL of the Passamaquoddy Tribe.
Cosponsored by Senator MOORE of Washington and
Representatives: BAILEY of Gorham, MILLETT of Cape Elizabeth, Senator: DAUGHTRY of
Cumberland.

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

2 **Sec. 1. P&SL 1865, c. 532, §4, sub-§2**, as amended by PL 1983, c. 799, §4, is
3 further amended to read:

4 2. Members appointed by the Governor. Fourteen members ~~shall~~ must be appointed
5 for 5-year terms by the Governor, subject to review by the joint standing committee of the
6 Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters and confirmation by the Legislature.
7 Each term ~~shall expire~~ expires on May 26th of the appropriate year, except that the retiring
8 member ~~shall serve~~ serves until a successor is appointed by the Governor and confirmed
9 by the Legislature. ~~No~~ A person accepting ~~such~~ an appointment under this subsection may
10 not be a member of the State Board of Education. In making appointments, the Governor
11 shall strive to achieve a membership ~~which~~ that is representative of the population of this
12 State. In so far as feasible when selecting qualified nominees to the board, the Governor
13 shall consider affirmative action criteria, professional education and experience and an
14 equitable geographical representation among the members. At least one member appointed
15 by the Governor must be a member of the Wabanaki Tribes. Trustees may serve a
16 maximum of 2 terms, except that an individual appointed to fill an unexpired term of 3
17 years or less is eligible for appointment to 2 full terms. Vacancies ~~shall~~ must be filled by
18 the Governor, subject to review by the joint standing committee of the Legislature having
19 jurisdiction over education matters and confirmation by the Legislature, for the unexpired
20 balance of the term. In order to restore and maintain rotation of terms of office of trustees,
21 an incumbent trustee who was appointed for a term of 5 years at a time subsequent to the
22 expiration of the term of ~~his~~ that trustee's predecessor in office ~~shall be~~ is deemed to have
23 commenced ~~his~~ that trustee's 5-year term upon the date of the expiration of the term of
24 office of ~~his~~ that trustee's predecessor rather than from the date of ~~his~~ that trustee's
25 appointment and qualification. Trustees ~~shall~~ serve without compensation, but may be
26 reimbursed for travel and other expenses incurred in the performance of their official duties.

27 **SUMMARY**

28 This bill requires that at least one member of the Board of Trustees of the University
29 of Maine System be a member of the Wabanaki Tribes.