



132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2025

Legislative Document

No. 14

S.P. 27

In Senate, January 8, 2025

An Act to Provide Indigenous Peoples Free Access to State Parks

Reference to the Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator HICKMAN of Kennebec.
Cosponsored by Representative HASENFUS of Readfield and
Senators: BAILEY of York, BENNETT of Oxford, TIPPING of Penobscot, Representative:
Speaker FECTEAU of Biddeford.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §1819-C** is enacted to read:

3 **§1819-C. Free admission for members of federally recognized Indian nation, tribe or**
4 **band**

5 Notwithstanding section 1819, a member of a federally recognized Indian nation, tribe
6 or band in this State is not required to pay a fee for admission to any state-owned park,
7 historic site, camping area or beach managed by the State. To qualify for free admission
8 under this section, a person shall present a qualifying tribal identification, as approved by
9 the respective tribal government, to the bureau staff on duty or other designee of the
10 director.

11 **SUMMARY**

12 This bill provides that a member of a federally recognized Indian nation, tribe or band
13 in Maine is not required to pay a fee for admission to any state-owned park, historic site,
14 camping area or beach managed by the State. The bill also specifies that to qualify for free
15 admission, a person is required to present a qualifying tribal identification, as approved by
16 the respective tribal government, to the park attendant or other designee of the Director of
17 the Bureau of Parks and Lands within the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and
18 Forestry.