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H.880

Introduced by Representatives Cina of Burlington, Colston of Winooski,
Gonzalez of Winooski, Houghton of Essex, Lippert of
Hinesburg, Morgan of Milton, Page of Newport City, Pajala of
Londonderry, Ralph of Hartland, and White of Hartford

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Conservation and Development; Department of Forests, Parks and
Recreation; Native American affairs; State park signs

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to require the
Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation to list the Abenaki place name
for sites within State parks.

An act relating to Abenaki place names on State park signs

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

~~Sec. 1. 10 V.S.A. § 2613 is added to read:~~

~~§ 2613. NATIVE AMERICAN PLACE NAMES IN STATE PARKS~~

~~(a) The Commissioner, before installing new signs or replacing existing
signs in State parks, shall consult with the Vermont Commission on Native
American Affairs to determine if there is an Abenaki name for any site within~~

1 ~~the park. If the Commission on Native American Affairs advises the~~
2 ~~Commissioner of an Abenaki name, the Abenaki name shall be displayed with~~
3 ~~the English name.~~

4 ~~(b) On or before July 1, 2025, all existing signs in State parks with~~
5 ~~Abenaki names shall be replaced to include the Abenaki name.~~

6 Sec. 2. LIST OF PLACES WITH ABENAKI NAMES

7 ~~On or before January 15, 2021, the Vermont Commission on Native~~
8 ~~American Affairs shall prepare a list of places and landmarks with Abenaki~~
9 ~~names. The Commission shall present the list to the Commissioner of Forests,~~
10 ~~Parks and Recreation in order to facilitate the construction of signs as required~~
11 ~~under 10 V.S.A. § 2613. The Commission shall also determine if there are~~
12 ~~sites outside of State parks with Abenaki names that require new signs.~~

13 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

14 ~~This act shall take effect on July 1, 2020.~~

~~§ 1. 10 V.S.A. § 2613 is added to read:~~

~~§ 2613. ABENAKI PLACE NAMES IN STATE PARKS~~

~~(a) The Commissioner, before installing new signs or replacing existing~~
~~signs in a State park, shall consult with the Vermont Commission on Native~~
~~American Affairs to determine if there is an Abenaki name for any site within~~
~~the park. If the Commission on Native American Affairs advises the~~
~~Commissioner of an Abenaki name, the Abenaki name shall be displayed with~~
~~the English name.~~

~~(b) On or before July 1, 2025, all existing signs in State parks with Abenaki~~
~~names shall be replaced to include the Abenaki name.~~

~~(c) The Commissioner shall adopt rules establishing a procedure for selecting spelling of the place name if there are multiple spellings provided by the Commission on Native American Affairs.~~

Sec. 1. 10 V.S.A. § 2613 is added to read:

§ 2613. ABENAKI PLACE NAMES IN STATE PARKS

(a) The Commissioner, before installing new signs or replacing existing signs in a State park, shall consult with the Vermont Commission on Native American Affairs to determine if there is an Abenaki name for any site within the park. If the Commission on Native American Affairs advises the Commissioner of an Abenaki name, the Abenaki name shall be displayed with the English name.

(b) The Commissioner shall adopt rules establishing a procedure for selecting the spelling of the place name if there are multiple spellings provided by the Commission on Native American Affairs.

Sec. 2. LIST OF PLACES WITH ABENAKI NAMES

On or before ~~January 15, 2021~~ March 15, 2021, the Vermont Commission on Native American Affairs shall prepare a list of places and landmarks with Abenaki names. The list shall state if there are multiple names or spelling variations for a place. The Commission shall present the list to the Commissioner of Forests, Parks and Recreation in order to facilitate the construction of signs as required under 10 V.S.A. § 2613. The Commission shall also determine if there are sites outside of State parks with Abenaki names that require new signs.

Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

~~This act shall take effect on July 1, 2020.~~

Sec. 1. 10 V.S.A. § 2613 is added to read:

§ 2613. ABENAKI PLACE NAMES IN STATE PARKS

The Commissioner, before installing new signs or replacing existing signs in a State park, shall consult with the Vermont Commission on Native American Affairs to determine if there is an Abenaki name for any site within the park. If the Commission on Native American Affairs advises the Commissioner of an Abenaki name, the Abenaki name shall be displayed with the English name.

Sec. 2. LIST OF PLACES WITH ABENAKI NAMES

On or before March 15, 2021, the Vermont Commission on Native American Affairs shall prepare a list of places and landmarks with Abenaki names. If there are multiple names or spelling variations for a place, the Commission

shall select a name or spelling to be used on signs in State parks. The Commission shall present the list to the Commissioner of Forests, Parks and Recreation in order to facilitate the construction of signs as required under 10 V.S.A. § 2613. The Commission shall also determine if there are sites outside of State parks with Abenaki names for which new signs should be considered.

Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on January 1, 2021.