

Legislative Bill Drafting Commission  
12015-03-3

S. -----  
Senate  
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IN SENATE--Introduced by Sen

--read twice and ordered printed,  
and when printed to be committed  
to the Committee on

----- A.  
Assembly  
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IN ASSEMBLY--Introduced by M. of A.

with M. of A. as co-sponsors

--read once and referred to the  
Committee on

**\*EXEC\***

(Relates to a settlement of certain  
land claims between the state and  
the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe, the  
Mohawk Council of Akwesasne, and the  
Mohawk Nation Council of Chiefs)

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settlement; land claims

AN ACT

relating to settlement of certain  
land claims

The People of the State of New  
York, represented in Senate and  
Assembly, do enact as follows:

IN SENATE

Senate introducer's signature

The senators whose names are circled below wish to join me in the sponsorship  
of this proposal:

s15 Addabbo	s34 Fernandez	s28 Krueger	s01 Palumbo	s42 Skoufis
s43 Ashby	s60 Gallivan	s24 Lanza	s21 Parker	s11 Stavisky
s36 Bailey	s12 Gianaris	s16 Liu	s19 Persaud	s45 Stec
s57 Borrello	s59 Gonzalez	s50 Mannion	s13 Ramos	s35 Stewart-
s46 Breslin	s26 Gounardes	s04 Martinez	s05 Rhoads	Cousins
s25 Brisport	s53 Griffo	s07 Martins	s33 Rivera	s44 Tedisco
s55 Brouk	s40 Harckham	s02 Mattera	s39 Rolison	s06 Thomas
s09 Canzoneri-	s54 Helming	s48 May	s61 Ryan	s49 Walczyk
Fitzpatrick	s41 Hinchey	s37 Mayer	s18 Salazar	s52 Webb
s17 Chu	s47 Hoylman-	s03 Murray	s10 Sanders	s38 Weber
s30 Cleare	Sigal	s20 Myrie	s23 Scarcella-	s08 Weik
s14 Comrie	s31 Jackson	s51 Oberacker	Spanton	
s56 Cooney	s27 Kavanagh	s58 O'Mara	s32 Sepulveda	
s22 Felder	s63 Kennedy	s62 Ortt	s29 Serrano	

IN ASSEMBLY

Assembly introducer's signature

The Members of the Assembly whose names are circled below wish to join me in the  
multi-sponsorship of this proposal:

a078 Alvarez	a140 Conrad	a150 Goodell	a017 Mikulin	a016 Sillitti
a031 Anderson	a032 Cook	a116 Gray	a122 Miller	a052 Simon
a121 Angelino	a039 Cruz	a100 Gunther	a051 Mitaynes	a075 Simone
a037 Ardila	a043 Cunningham	a139 Hawley	a145 Morinello	a114 Simpson
a035 Aubry	a021 Curran	a083 Heastie	a144 Norris	a094 Slater
a120 Barclay	a018 Darling	a028 Hevesi	a045 Novakhov	a005 Smith
a106 Barrett	a053 Davila	a128 Hunter	a069 O'Donnell	a118 Smullen
a105 Beephan	a072 De Los Santos	a029 Hyndman	a091 Otis	a022 Solages
a107 Bendett	a003 DeStefano	a079 Jackson	a132 Palmesano	a110 Steck
a082 Benedetto	a070 Dickens	a104 Jacobson	a088 Paulin	a010 Stern
a042 Bichotte	a054 Dilan	a011 Jean-Pierre	a141 Peoples-	a127 Stirpe
Hermelyn	a081 Dinowitz	a134 Jensen	Stokes	a102 Tague
a117 Blankenbush	a147 DiPietro	a115 Jones	a023 Pheffer	a064 Tannousis
a015 Blumencranz	a009 Durso	a077 Joyner	Amato	a086 Tapia
a073 Bores	a099 Eachus	a125 Kelles	a063 Pirozzolo	a071 Taylor
a098 Brabenc	a048 Eichenstein	a040 Kim	a089 Pretlow	a001 Thiele
a026 Braunstein	a074 Epstein	a013 Lavine	a019 Ra	a033 Vanel
a138 Bronson	a109 Fahy	a065 Lee	a030 Raga	a055 Walker
a046 Brook-Krasny	a061 Fall	a126 Lemondes	a038 Rajkumar	a143 Wallace
a020 Brown, E.	a008 Fitzpatrick	a095 Levenberg	a006 Ramos	a112 Walsh
a012 Brown, K.	a004 Flood	a060 Lucas	a062 Reilly	a041 Weinstein
a093 Burdick	a057 Forrest	a135 Lunsford	a087 Reyes	a024 Weprin
a085 Burgos	a124 Friend	a123 Lupardo	a149 Rivera	a059 Williams
a142 Burke	a050 Gallagher	a129 Magnarelli	a027 Rosenthal, D.	a113 Woerner
a119 Buttenschon	a131 Gallahan	a101 Maher	a067 Rosenthal, L.	a080 Zaccaro
a133 Byrnes	a007 Gandolfo	a036 Mamdani	a025 Rozic	a096 Zebrowski
a044 Carroll	a068 Gibbs	a130 Manktelow	a111 Santabarbara	a056 Zinerman
a058 Chandler-	a002 Giglio, J.A.	a108 McDonald	a090 Sayegh	
Waterman	a148 Giglio, J.M.	a014 McDonough	a076 Seawright	
a049 Chang	a066 Glick	a097 McGowan	a084 Septimo	
a136 Clark	a034 Gonzalez-	a146 McMahon	a092 Shimsky	
a047 Colton	Rojas	a137 Meeks	a103 Shrestha	

1) Single House Bill (introduced and printed separately in either or  
both houses). Uni-Bill (introduced simultaneously in both houses and printed  
as one bill. Senate and Assembly introducer sign the same copy of the bill).

2) Circle names of co-sponsors and return to introduction clerk with 2  
signed copies of bill and: in Assembly 2 copies of memorandum in support, in  
Senate 4 copies of memorandum in support (single house); or 4 signed copies  
of bill and 6 copies of memorandum in support (uni-bill).

1 Section 1. Land claims settlement. The legislature hereby finds that  
2 long-standing disputes between the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe, the Mohawk  
3 Council of Akwesasne, and the Mohawk Nation Council of Chiefs, and the  
4 state of New York, Franklin county and St. Lawrence county, have gener-  
5 ated litigation in state and federal courts regarding property and other  
6 taxation, and that the status of Mohawk lands has caused decades of  
7 unrest and uncertainty for the citizens and residents of the Northern  
8 New York region of this state. The legislature further finds that it is  
9 in the best interests of all citizens, residents and political subdivi-  
10 sions of this state to remove any uncertainty that such litigation or  
11 disputes have created regarding the title to and jurisdictional status  
12 of land within the state. The legislature recognizes that negotiated  
13 settlement of these disputes will facilitate a cooperative relationship  
14 between the state, the counties and the Mohawk. Therefore, the legisla-  
15 ture declares that:

16 (a) Notwithstanding any other law, the state, through the governor,  
17 may execute a land claims settlement agreement including, but not limit-  
18 ed to, terms consistent with memoranda of understanding between the  
19 governor, the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe and Saint Lawrence county  
20 executed on May 28, 2014 and Resolution 188, as adopted by the Franklin  
21 County Board of Legislature on June 5, 2023.

22 (b) Such land claims settlement shall be deemed ratified by the legis-  
23 lature upon the governor's certification to the temporary president of  
24 the senate, the speaker of the assembly, and the secretary of state,  
25 that such agreement has received requisite federal approvals and the  
26 underlying litigation has been dismissed with prejudice.

27 (c) Except as otherwise specifically provided in the agreement, the  
28 state specifically reserves all its rights, as attributes of its inher-

1 ent sovereignty, recognized by the tenth and eleventh amendments to the  
2 United States Constitution. Nothing in this section shall be construed  
3 to affect the existing authority of the governor under the constitution  
4 and laws of this state to execute land claims settlements.

5 § 2. This act shall take effect immediately.