

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
PUBLIC ACT SUMMARY



PA 23-179—SB 1213 (VETOED)

Appropriations Committee

AN ACT CONCERNING THE MASHANTUCKET PEQUOT AND MOHEGAN FUND

SUMMARY: Beginning in FY 26, this act would have required that \$139.38 million annually be transferred from the General Fund to the Mashantucket Pequot and Mohegan Fund. Currently, the amount of the transfer is set by the budget act.

Under the act, this annual deposit would have consisted of funds received by the state from the Mashantucket Pequot Tribe and the Mohegan Tribe of Indians of Connecticut pursuant to memoranda of understanding entered into between the state and each tribe in 1993 and 1994, respectively, thus conforming to current practice. (Current law references funds received from the Mashantucket Pequot Tribe only.)

Like current law, the act generally would have required the Office of Policy and Management secretary to distribute funds in accordance with statutory requirements, and money in the fund would have been paid to municipalities as specified in the statutes and legislatively enacted biennial budget. (For FYs 24 and 25, the budget and implementer act sets a town-by-town distribution schedule (PA 23-204, § 38).)

The act also would have prohibited reducing these transfers unless the governor certified an emergency and the legislature approved the reduction by a two-thirds vote of the membership in each house. (It is unclear whether this prohibition would have been enforceable based on the principle of legislative entrenchment, under which one legislature generally cannot restrict a future legislature's ability to enact legislation.)

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2023