

Sackett Introduces Land Bill, Legislative Council Also Plans

One bill providing state participation in a land claims settlement has been introduced in the State Legislature and another has been drawn up.

Rep. John Sackett, R-Galena, introduced a bill early Wednesday providing for a state contribution of \$100 million to a Native land claims settlement.

The Legislative Council, a bi-

partisan interim arm of the legislature, has written a bill providing for a state contribution of \$50 million or 10 per cent of whatever cash settlement the federal government makes with the natives, whichever is bigger.

The state contribution would be dependent on lifting of the land freeze on 80 per cent of the federal land in Alaska by the end

of the year.

The bill amends 1968 legislation which authorized payment of \$50 million to the Natives if the land freeze had been lifted by October, 1968.

It would establish an Alaska Native Commission to oversee distribution of funds which would go to Native corporations.

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The corporations could dissolve and divide their funds on a per capita basis among their Native stockholders after 25 years.

Under Rep. Sackett's bill, the state contribution would come from the sale, lease, exchange or disposal of state land and would be paid to Native business corporations in annual installments of \$5 million.

An Alaska Native Commission would oversee disbursement of the funds to the corporations.