

Testimony in Support of “LD 78: RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to Article X of the Constitution of Maine Regarding the Publication of Maine Indian Treaty Obligations”

March 7, 2023

Dear Senator Carney, Representative Moonen, and honorable members of the Committee on Judiciary,

My name is Claire Horne and I am a resident of Appleton, Maine. I am writing today in support of “LD 78: RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to Article X of the Constitution of Maine Regarding the Publication of Maine Indian Treaty Obligations”.

I believe that the Maine Constitution should be able to be printed as it is written. Learning about the aforementioned bill was the first time I learned that some sections of Article X from our state constitution are not included in printed versions of the Maine Constitution. These sections are in effect and are relevant today, considering they describe treaties with Passamaquoddy and Penobscot Nations. While I realize these sections can be found online, I know that I would be confused and potentially misled if I referenced a printed version of Maine’s constitution with Article X incomplete in this way. If a printed version of the state constitution is the most accessible copy to someone, I believe they should be able to still read these sections of Article X. We should be clear about what the state constitution contains so that regardless of whether the copy you’re reading is online or in print, the information reads the same.

Thank you for all that you do on the Judiciary Committee, and for our state. I hope you will support “LD 78: RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to Article X of the Constitution of Maine Regarding the Publication of Maine Indian Treaty Obligations”, so that omitted sections of Article X can be included in printed copies of the Maine Constitution.

Sincerely,
Claire Horne

Claire Horne
Appleton
LD 78

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