

Wayne Cobb  
Portland  
LD 1970

To the Honorable Senator Anne Carney (chair), Honorable Representative Matt Moonen (chair) and Distinguished Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary:

My name is Wayne Cobb. I live in Portland. Today I urge your Committee to vote unanimously OUGHT TO PASS on LD 1970.

ICWA has been labeled the “gold standard” in child welfare policy and practice by a coalition of 18 national child advocacy organizations. ICWA serves the best interests of Wabanaki and other Native American children by keeping them connected to their culture, extended family and community, which are proven protective factors.

Nearly 500 tribes, hundreds of supporters, and at least 87 members of Congress support ICWA as the abiding standard in Native child welfare.

Maine’s U.S. Sens. Susan Collins and Angus King and Rep. Chellie Pingree are among the 87 members of Congress who signed the “friends of the court” brief supporting ICWA in the pending Brackeen vs. Haaland case that is expected to be decided in June.

Please help Maine join 12 other states that have acted to codify ICWA protections on the state level by voting OUGHT TO PASS on LD 1970.

Respectfully submitted,  
Wayne Cobb