

Naneen Chace-Ortiz
Westbrook
LD 1970

Dear Members of the Judiciary Committee.

My name is Naneen Chace-Ortiz, and I am one of your constituents. I live in Westbrook, Maine and I'm writing in support of LD 1970.

As a Unitarian Universalist, I believe in the inherent worth and dignity of every human being and in justice, equity and compassion in human relations. I am writing in support of LD 1970 An Act to Enact the Maine Indian Child Welfare Act. LD 1970 codifies the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA), a federal Indian law, on state level for Maine. Passing this bill will be absolutely critical if the Supreme Court strikes down the Indian Child Welfare Act this summer. I ask that you vote to pass LD 1970.

I support LD 1970 for the following reasons 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.

Again, I urge you to give LD 1970 your full support and to talk to your legislative colleagues to encourage their support as well. Thank you.

Yours truly,
Naneen