

Mary Born
Brunswick
LD 2007

I am writing in support of LD 2007. I have lived in Maine since 1996 and during this time have become aware of the unfair treatment the Wabanaki people have suffered through official acts by the State of Maine.

LD 2007 would implement many of the recommendations of the 2020 bipartisan task force whose purpose was to review the effectiveness of the Maine Indian Claims Settlement Implementing Act. These recommended changes would bring the rights and authority of the four Wabanaki Nations in line with the other 570 federally recognized tribes in the US.

Wabanaki Nations should be able to take advantage of federal self-determination policies that have greatly benefited other tribes in the US. Not only would Wabanaki people benefit from these changes, but also rural areas surrounding Wabanaki territories would benefit from new job opportunities.

Thousands of other Mainers stand with the Wabanaki and support their self-determination. It is fair and long-overdue.

Please vote in favor of this bill.