

**Testimony in support of LD 2007, *An Act to Advance Self-determination for Wabanaki Nations***

To: Sen. Carney, Rep. Moonen, and Members of the Joint Standing Committee on  
Judiciary From: Deborah M. Burd, 19 Dodge Corner Rd., Strong, Maine

Dear Senator Carney, Representative Moonen, and members of the Judiciary Committee, my name is Deborah Burd and I live in the town of Strong. I am writing to testify in support of LD 2007.

Maine needs to consider and adopt the resulting 22 consensus recommendations made after a bipartisan task force reviewed the Maine Indian Claims Settlement Implementing Act in 2020. It is long overdue that Maine has not aligned itself with the other 570 recognized tribes in the United States. The current Settlement Act prevents Maine tribes from self-governing and from fully exercising their rights.

Thank you for considering my thoughts. As a citizen of Maine, and of this country, knowing all that has been taken from tribes in Maine, and across this country, and knowing all that stills separates them from an equitable existence, here and beyond, I implore you to act in support of LD 2027.