

Marion Knox
Portland
LD 2007

To: Sen. Carney, Rep. Moonen, and members of the Joint Standing Committee on
Judiciary
From: Marion Knox, 70 Thomas Street, Portland, Maine, 04102
Re: Support for LD 2007, An Act to Advance Self-determination for Wabanaki
Nations

Dear Sen. Carney, Rep. Moonen and members of the Judiciary Committee, my name is Marion Knox and I live in Portland, Maine. I am writing in support of LD 2007. As you know, the 1980 Maine Indian Claims Settlement Act (MICSA) was written as a living document, with the intention of supporting the Wabanaki Nations. The inherent and paternalistic restrictions it contains have kept the Wabanaki Nations from achieving significant economic growth. The other 570 federal tribes who've had full access to federal policies of self-determination have had over 61% average income growth compared with the 9% increase for Wabanaki citizens in Maine. Passing LD 2007 and removing those obstacles would help the Wabanaki Nations take advantage of federal self-determination policies, programs and funding that elsewhere in Indian Country led to the creation of thousands of jobs and hundreds of millions of dollars in goods and services produced by Native businesses. Thank you for your dedication as Maine's public servants. I hope you will extend your concern and care to all its citizens.

Your sincerely,
Marion Knox