

**To:** Sen. Carney, Rep. Moonen, and members of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary

**From:** Caroline Chinlund, 25 Thornton Way Apt. 216, Brunswick, 04011, St. Paul's Episcopal Church Sacred Ground Program

**Re:** Support for LD 2007, An Act to Advance Self-determination for Wabanaki Nations

**Intro:** Sen. Carney, Rep. Moonen and members of the Judiciary Committee, my name is Caroline Chinlund and I live in Brunswick. I am here to testify in support of LD 2007.

**Testimony:**

My personal and principal reason for asking my representatives and the governor to support LD 2007 is that it has the potential to transform the overall wellbeing of the people of our state, both indigenous and settlers. When our economy suffers, people do also. The Maine tribes' income per capita is lower than most other states' tribes, and the children of the Wabanaki suffer from hunger to a greater degree than other children in the state. That this bill could stimulate our economic picture by granting the tribes the right to create their own enterprises in their territory with spillover to neighboring communities through jobs and tourism, is reason enough to advance the bill. Beyond that, tribal sovereignty represents an acknowledgment of the rights and privileges of a people whose principles and practices have much to offer to those who care about preservation of our state's water and air, forests and other resources. In my church, each worship service begins with an acknowledgment that our building is standing on tribal lands unjustly taken from the people.

I think that the governor's insistence on letter of law in an unclear and unresolved 1980 settlement is a throwback to the way the original treaties were made and broken. The tribes have come forward once again, with courage and pride, to ask for equality under federal jurisdiction. I think of hungry children and say, please, no more delay. Let's make LD2007 law and celebrate a new period of growth and respect for our first people.

**Closing:** Thank you for the privilege of addressing you with my concern. It is time to create Tribal Sovereignty and a new chapter for the Wabanaki. Hungry children are our future! Let's feed them and encourage their parents. The rest of us will benefit.

caroline Chinlund  
St. Paul's Sacred Ground Program Brunswick  
LD 2007

To: Sen. Carney, Rep. Moonen, and members of the Joint Standing Committee on  
Judiciary

From: Caroline Chinlund, 25 Thornton Way Apt. 216, Brunswick, 04011, St. Paul's  
Episcopal Church Sacred Ground Program

Re: Support for LD 2007, An Act to Advance Self-determination for Wabanaki  
Nations

Intro: Sen. Carney, Rep. Moonen and members of the Judiciary Committee, my name  
is Caroline Chinlund and I live in Brunswick. I am here to testify in support of LD  
2007.

Testimony:

My personal and principal reason for asking my representatives and the governor to  
support LD 2007 is that it has the potential to transform the overall wellbeing of the  
people of our state, both indigenous and settlers. When our economy suffers, people  
do also. The Maine tribes' income per capita is lower than most other states' tribes,  
and the children of the Wabanaki suffer from hunger to a greater degree than other  
children in the state. That this bill could stimulate our economic picture by granting  
the tribes the right to create their own enterprises in their territory with spillover to  
neighboring communities through jobs and tourism, is reason enough to advance the  
bill. Beyond that, tribal sovereignty represents an acknowledgment of the rights and  
privileges of a people whose principles and practices have much to offer to those who  
care about preservation of our state's water and air, forests and other resources. In my  
church, each worship service begins with an acknowledgment that our building is  
standing on tribal lands unjustly taken from the people.

I think that the governor's insistence on letter of law in an unclear and unresolved  
1980 settlement is a throwback to the way the original treaties were made and broken.  
The tribes have come forward once again, with courage and pride, to ask for equality  
under federal jurisdiction. I think of hungry children and say, please, no more delay.  
Let's make LD2007 law and celebrate a new period of growth and respect for our first  
people.

Closing: Thank you for the privilege of addressing you with my concern. It is time to  
create Tribal Sovereignty and a new chapter for the Wabanaki. Hungry children are  
our future! Let's feed them and encourage their parents. The rest of us will benefit.