

Ant Blasi
Hancock
LD 2007

Dear Judiciary Committee, LD 2007 has very good economic potential if enacted. Harvard researchers say the Wabanaki Nations could become the economic engines of their regions, creating new opportunities for jobs and income growth for themselves and rural Maine. According to the recent Harvard Report, self-government for the tribes would likely mean an additional \$330 million a year in Maine's Gross Domestic Product, more than 2,700 jobs, and \$39 million a year in state and local tax revenue. Based on the experience of other tribes, better than half the new jobs created are likely to be filled by neighbors of Wabanaki tribes in rural Maine.

Four years ago, more than 1,600 Mainers from all corners of the state testified in record numbers in favor of passing a tribal sovereignty bill based on consensus recommendations made by a legislative task force. Even if you think this version of legislation on this issue, An Act to Advance Self-determination for Wabanaki Nations, may be vetoed AGAIN, you can override that. Please vote Ought to Pass on LD2007.