

**Testimony in support of LD 2007:**

*An Act to Advance Self-determination for Wabanaki Nations*

**TO:** Sen. Carney, Rep. Moonen, Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary

**FROM:** Holly Faubel

2/23/2024

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Belfast Maine 04915

Dear Senator Carney, Representative Moonen, and members of the Judiciary Committee, my name is Holly Faubel and I am a resident of Maine. I am writing to testify in support of LD 2007

My family has lived in Maine for over 150 years. Some of my family trace their direct descendents' arrival in this country to the *Mayflower* and, the second ship to land on New England shores, the good ship *Ann*. Had the indigenous people who these migrants encountered not helped them survive those first harsh winters, our country's and Maine's history would have been quite different.

In my life I have had the chance to know some of the peoples of the Passamaquoddy tribe and the Wabanaki Nation through my friendship with the late David Moses Bridges. In learning about their struggles for recognition and just treatment, I implore you to pass LD 2007. It is only right and just that Maine's indigenous people have the same rights as would be afforded them in any other state. We must hold to our commitment to them, though indeed many commitments in the past have shamefully been broken.

Thank you for your time and attention to right this long standing issue. We owe these people the sovereignty of self-determination that has been long overdue. Respectfully, to do any less is a blight on the integrity of the State that we all call our home.