Frederick Weiss Portland Maine LD 2007

It is long overdue for the state of Maine to restore the inherent right of the Wabanaki Nations in Maine to self-govern within their respective territories in accordance with the same federal laws that generally govern tribal lands elsewhere in the United States. Our current state laws are preventing the Wabanaki Nations in Maine from taking 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. Our current policies are contributing poverty, poor educational outcomes and poor medical care. This is not something that should continue.