

Emily Troll
South Portland
LD 2007

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

My name is Emily Troll, and I'm a resident of South Portland. I'm writing today to testify in support of LD 2007. I am truly thrilled to see a bill put forward that would effectively address the wrongs of the Maine Indian Claims Settlement Implementing Act. That legislation has held back our tribal neighbors from their rights for far too long.

And when some folks are held back, it's bad for all of us. Likewise, when they do well - we do well! And this isn't just a touchy-feely thing. Research shows that implementing this bill would add over 2,700 jobs and \$330 million to the Maine gross domestic product.

Tribal sovereignty is good for all of us. And I deeply feel that it's the right thing to do. We are occupiers on this land, not because we chose to be. But we have a choice now about how we handle the present moment and a responsibility to respond with compassion and action. This present moment could be a start at making amends and stepping towards equality (our greatest American value!) Please don't let this opportunity slip by.

In the past, leaders have pushed back on similar bills citing a fear that the bill was rushed or that implementation will be too difficult. I beg you to remember the long history that brought this bill forward, including (but not limited to) the 22 consensus recommendations from the 2020 bipartisan task force. This is ready for law, and long overdue. No more side-stepping! Let's step forward on this together!

Please do all you can to advocate for LD 2007. This would be a huge step forward for the Wabanaki nations, and a huge step forward for all of Maine.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely
Emily