

Margaret Julie Finch
Phippsburg, Maine
LD 2007

Sen Carney, Rep. Moonen, and members of the joint Standing Committee on
Judiciary.

Re: support for LD 2007, an Act to advance self-determination for the Wabanaki
Nation.

Intro: Sen. Carney, Rep. Moonen and members of the Judiciary Committee, my name
is Margaret Julie Finch and I own a home in Phippsburg. I am here to testify in
support of LD 2007.

Removing the obstacle imposed by the 1980 Maine Indian Claims Settlement Act
(MICSA) would enable the Wabanaki Nations to take full advantage of federal
self-determination policies that are very clearly benefitting 570 other tribes and
nearby communities across the country.

When the Wabanakis thrive, rural Maine thrives...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 of the new jobs created
are likely to be filled by neighbors of Wabanaki tribes in rural Maine.

I thank the Judiciary Committee members and urge you to pass this just and fair
legislation.