

Lindy Moceus
Vienna
LD 2007

Testimony on
LD 2007 "An Act to Advance Self-determination for Wabanaki Nations"

This bill needs to pass!

It's time to remove the barriers that have kept the Wabanaki Nations from achieving economic growth like that achieved over the past 40 years by 570 federal tribes across Indian Country.

The average income growth since 1989 has been 61% for tribal citizens not located in Maine, but only 9% for Wabanaki citizens in Maine; Maine's overall income growth for the same period was 25%. Because of the Settlement Act, the Wabanaki tribes' health, educational and economic outcomes have lagged far behind those of other population groups in Maine and other tribes throughout the country.

Years ago Maine wouldn't allow the Maine tribes to operate the casinos. Instead all those millions go to an out-of-state company year after year. That opportunity would have greatly boosted the economy of the tribes along with helping Maine's overall economy by keeping the money here. That was an incredible opportunity that Maine would not allow.

Maine should no longer constrain the Wabanaki or any other tribe.
PASS THIS BILL!

Lindy Moceus
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