Suzi Pond Redbird Media Group, LLC LD 2007

Testimony in support of LD 2007, An Act to Advance Self-determination for Wabanaki Nations

To: Sen. Carney, Rep. Moonen, and Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary

From: Suzi Pond, 54 Lower Flying Point Rd. Freeport, ME 04032 Redbird Media Group

Dear Senator Carney, Representative Moonen, and members of the Judiciary Committee, my name is Suzi Pond and I live Freeport, Maine. I am the Founder of Redbird Media Group, a certified B Corp video production company committed to amplifying the voices of organizations dedicated to positive social and environmental impact. I am writing to testify in support of LD 2007.

As a mother and leader of Redbird Media Group, a B Corp Certified, purpose-driven business, I believe that Maine's business community has a specific responsibility to advocate in support of LD 2007 to offset the specific harms of Maine's 1980 Settlement Act and to re-establish a functional and working partnership with the Wabanaki people.

This bill will help create regenerative opportunities for future generations and improve access to economic, health and educational opportunities with fewer barriers. I ask that you listen, hear and recognize the effects that current policies continue to wage on Wabanaki land, families and communities and recognize that tribal self-governance is a basic human right.

It is time to act. It is time to do the right thing.

Thank you.