

Lynn Duryea
South Portland
LD 2007

I urge you to pass LD 2007. In all fairness, the Native tribes of Maine should be granted the same federally recognized status as other tribes in the country, denied them by the 1980 Maine Indian Claims Settlement Act (MICSA). The unfortunate consequences of this decision have meant that Maine's Wabanaki people have not been able to achieve the significant economic growth experienced by the other 570 federal tribes over the past 40 years, those who have had had full access to federal policies of self-determination. Statistics bear this out. Everyone in the State of Maine will benefit if our Native population can prosper through enhanced economic growth.