

Jeremy Cluchey
Bowdoinham, ME
LD 2007

Support for LD 2007, An Act to Advance Self-determination for Wabanaki Nations
Senator Carney, Representative Moonen, and members of the Joint Standing
Committee on Judiciary,

My name is Jeremy Cluchey and I am a resident of Bowdoinham. I am writing today
in support of LD 2007, An Act to Advance Self-determination for Wabanaki Nations.

The arguments for the State of Maine's recognition of the inherent sovereignty of
Wabanaki Nations have undoubtedly been made more comprehensively and
eloquently in the testimony of many others than I could muster here. Rather than
attempting to replicate those points, I'll say simply that I am deeply convinced of their
merit.

Moreover, when it comes to the state recognizing tribal sovereignty, I am confident it
is not a question of "whether," but of "when." The people of Maine have shown
repeatedly that they support this step; it is now up to you in the Legislature to
determine whether the Governor's opposition will once again prevent you from
honoring that support and doing what is right on this matter. I hope this time it will
not stand in your way.

I ask that you support this important and just step forward for Maine, and that you talk
with your colleagues of all political stripes and encourage them to do the same. Thank
you for your consideration and your service.