

Judy Kimball  
South Portland  
LD 2007

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

From: Judy Kimball  
62 Aspen Avenue  
South Portland, ME 04106

Dear Senator Carney, Representative Moonen, and members of the Judiciary  
Committee,

My name is Judy Kimball and I have lived in South Portland for most of my life. I am  
writing to testify in support of LD 2007.

As a retired, white, privileged resident of this state, I cannot begin to imagine the  
frustration that a member of the Wabanaki Nations must feel, and for so long. While  
we craft land acknowledgment statements and worry how to put in place sustainable  
land practices, we are slowly strangling the very people who can teach us how to care  
for this beautiful place that only they have a right to claim as their own.

Even though intentions may have been good when the 1980 Maine Indian Claims  
Settlement Act (MICSA) was put into place, it has since become a source of conflict  
and stagnation for the Wabanaki people, hindering not only their ability to thrive but  
also Maine's ability to thrive.

Tribal nations in Maine have the worst of both worlds. Denied access to much of the  
land they have stewarded for millennia, and for the past 40 years denied access to  
federal self-determination policies, programs and funding, they have been frozen in a  
Catch-22 of restrictive legislation. It is time to remove the outdated policies that keep  
the Wabanaki from taking full advantage of federal self-determination policies that  
are benefiting the 570 other tribes in this country. They have waited much too long.

Thank you for serving on the Judiciary Committee and for your consideration of this  
request. Please support LD 2007, for the good of the Wabanaki and for the good of  
Maine.

Respectfully,

Judy Kimball  
62 Aspen Avenue  
South Portland, ME 04106  
207-450-5861