

25 February 2024

Senator Carney, Representative Moonen, and members of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary:

My name is **Patricia Shearman**. I am a resident of **Norway**, Maine and am testifying **in support of LD 2007**.

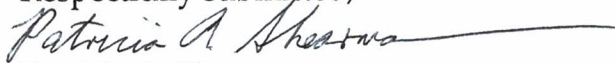
I am an historian (MA USM, American and New England Studies, a retired Oxford County East Register of Deeds, and a member of the Mayflower Society, the Daughters of the American Revolution and numerous statewide local historical societies. I am directly descended from 12 of the Mayflower families (about half of the passengers on the Mayflower) and I have studied extensively the interactions between indigenous people and settlers over the past 400 years. I am 74 years old and I remember, and followed with interest, the Indian Land Settlement of 1980 and the disgraceful behavior, putting it mildly, of the State of Maine.

The State of Maine must restore full sovereignty, which is clearly the right of the Wabanaki people.

Let's get back on the right side of history. My great-great-great grandfather, Noah Prince, was President of the Maine State Senate in 1851-1852. He was a Democrat and in 1854 was instrumental in forming the Republican party in Maine as an action against slavery and the moral imperative which I share as a Unitarian Universalist. Men of principle and courage made good choices then. Please do so now and support LD 2007.

Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,



Patricia A. Shearman

Norway, Maine