

Anna Matthews
Brunswick, Maine
LD 2007

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

From: Anna Matthews, Brunswick, Maine

Re: Support for LD 2007, An Act to Advance Self-determination for Wabanaki
Nations

Sen. Carney, Rep. Moonen, and members of the Judiciary Committee, my name is
Anna Matthews and I am from Brunswick. I offer this testimony in support of LD
2007.

I support LD 2007 because like thousands of other Mainers, I believe that when the
Wabanaki Nations thrive, we all thrive. I have lived in this beautiful state my entire
life, and for generations it has been the place that my family has called home. In
school, I was not adequately taught about the Wabanaki Nations, so everything I
know now had to be learned outside the classroom. In reading over this bill it is plain
to see that by allowing the restrictions put in place by MICSA to continue, the growth
and prosperity of the Wabanaki Nations is compromised. Passing LD 2007 would be
instrumental in allowing the Wabanaki Nations to take advantage of federal
self-determination policies that would lead to better health, educational, and economic
outcomes, which have suffered due to the restrictions put in place by MICSA.

The Wabanaki Nations are deserving of respect, equity, and sovereignty, and are
owed the ability to make use of policies that would allow their communities to thrive.

Thank you Sen. Carney, Rep. Moonen, and members of the Joint Standing Committee
on Judiciary for taking the time to read this testimony.