

Lauren Perreault  
Cape Elizabeth  
LD 2007

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

My name is Lauren Perreault. I am a resident of Cape Elizabeth and am testifying in support of LD 2007, An Act to Advance Self Determination for Wabanaki Nations.

I am a member of First Parish Unitarian Universalist in Portland, Maine. I submit these remarks as a member of the UU faith tradition, which affirms and promotes justice, equity and compassion in human relations, and the inherent worth and dignity of every person.

I believe LD 2007 should become law because the 1980 settlement implementing act, which it would amend, has put the Wabanaki tribes in a category separate from all other federally recognized tribes in the U.S. and has stifled the Tribes' right to self-determination, causing both cultural and economic hardship.

All people in Maine should have the right to self-determination.

I believe the State of Maine has a moral imperative to help restore Wabanaki peoples' sovereignty and right to self-determination and I urge you to vote Ought to Pass on LD 2007.

Thank you.