

Cynthia Stancioff  
Camden  
LD 2007

My name is Cynthia Stancioff and I am a year-round resident of Camden, Maine. I have followed the efforts of an earnest and sincere group of native americans, white allies and legislators over the past several years to redress the long-standing injustices suffered by Maine's tribes due to the results of the Maine Indian Claims Settlement Act decades ago. While that legislation may have been conceived in good faith, it doesn't matter, because the outcomes for the tribes have been detrimental to their ability to thrive economically, civically, physically, culturally, and educationally. LD 2007, the result of a legislatively-derived, very productive task force sets forth a number of that task force's consensus recommendations on how to amend the Settlement Act to enable Maine's tribes to more effectively self-govern, to benefit from federal statutes that have allowed 570 other U.S. dwelling tribes to thrive economically (in a relative sense), but been denied to Maine tribes, with demonstratively detrimental results for them. Please take the first essential steps toward bringing Maine tribal dignity to life through passing LD 2007.