Maine



Rivers

OUR MISSION IS TO PROTECT, RESTORE AND ENHANCE THE ECOLOGICAL HEALTH OF MAINE'S RIVER SYSTEMS

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

LANDIS HUDSON

PROJECT MANAGER

MATT STREETER

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CHUCK VERRILL PRESIDENT

JEFF REARDON SECRETARY

CURTIS BOHLEN TREASURER

NICK BENNETT
DAVID COURTEMANCH
GREG D'AUGUSTINE
SUSAN P. DAVIES
DAN GAYER
DAN KUSNIERZ
RICK LAWRENCE
SHARRI VENNO

P.O. BOX 782 YARMOUTH, ME 04096

Рн: 207-847-9277

CONTACT@MAINERIVERS.ORG

WWW.MAINERIVERS.ORG

February 26, 2024

Judiciary Committee c/o Legislative Information Office 100 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333

Re: Testimony in Support of LD 2007: Tribal Self-Determination

Dear Senator Carney, Representative Moonan and Distinguished Members of the Judiciary Committee,

We write in support of LD 2007: Tribal Self-Determination, understanding that this is a bill to restore full sovereignty for the Wabanaki people and legally affirm their inherent right to self-determination.

We realize that there is strength in working for a common future with clean water and restored fisheries. We know that the successes of the Penobscot River restoration work came about because of the vision and advocacy of the Penobscot Indian Nation. The Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians and the Passamaquoddy Tribal Governments of Indian Township and Sipayik are leaders in efforts to restore fish passage in their respective watersheds, the Meduxnekeag and the Skutik/St Croix.

We understand that LD 2007 represents years of hard work and includes a series of detailed recommendations from the 2020 tribal commission. We ask you to support this important work and vote Ought to Pass, toward a future with self-determination for Maine's Tribes.

"A river cuts through rock, not because of its power, but because of its persistence." -J. Watkins

Sincerely,

Landis Hudson
Executive Director