Edgelynn Venuti

Orono

LD 14

Edgelynn Venuti

Orono

LD 14

Thursday, March 6th, 2025

To: Secretary Grant, Senator Hickman, Representative Hasfenus, Senator Bailey, Senator BEnnet, Senator Tipping, and Speaker Fecteau

From: Edgelynn Venuti

Re: Testimony in Support of LD 14: An Act to Provide Indigenous Peoples Free Access to State Parks

My name is Edgelynn Venuti, and I am a student at the University of Maine in Orono, originally from Robbinston. I write to you today as a student, activist, and concerned young citizen to urge you to vote "ought to pass" on LD 14.

This bill would grant members of the Wabanaki Nations free access to Maine's state parks—lands that were historically theirs. Supporting this measure is a step toward acknowledging their sovereignty and working toward reparations. Ensuring their right to enjoy these public lands aligns with our values of equity, justice, and respect for Indigenous rights.

I urge you to take action and support LD 14 to build a more equitable state.

Respectfully submitted,

Edgelynn Venuti