

**Testimony in opposition of LD 812 and 813
to the Committee on Judiciary**

March 15, 2025

Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and distinguished members of the Committee:

My name is Sarah Johnson and I am a resident of Sanford.

I am writing in opposition of LD 813, An Act Regarding State Recognition of Native American Tribes, as well as LD812, An Act to Provide State Recognition of the Kineo St. John Tribe.

Authority to recognize tribes should remain with the federal government as it traditionally has been. The Wabanaki Alliance is opposed to these bills and described their concerns in detail. It is harmful to bypass the federal standards and recognition process. The purpose of government is to support the protection and well being of society. These bills fulfill neither of these goals, and will damage the sovereignty of the Wabanaki Nations.

I hope you will oppose this legislation with a vote of 'ought not to pass'.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sarah Johnson

Sanford, Maine.