

Diane Oltarzewski
Belfast
LD 958

Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn and members of this committee:

I write in strong support of LD 958 and thank those who brought this bill forward.

It would eliminate any ambiguity concerning the sanctity of the sovereign territory that remains, after centuries of plunder and fraud, to Wabanaki people in Maine. The State of Maine has long failed to respect the Nation to Nation obligation with respect to interactions with Tribal governments, but happily we are on a new trajectory of mutual respect and creative collaboration.

This bill will affirm our progress and establish a framework for real consultation and mutual agreement when situations arise in the future that require debate and resolution. Please give it your unequivocal support.

Thank you!