Barbara Vickery Richmond LD 958

Testimony in support of LD 958 An Act to Prohibit Eminent Domain on Tribal Lands, sponsored by Rep. Billy Bob Faulkingham.

Senator Carny, Representative Kuhn and Members of the Judiciary Committee:

I am Barbara Vickery, a longtime resident of Richmond, Maine.

Maine's federally recognized tribes should have the same protections under the law as all other federally recognized tribes across the nation. It is what is fair and equitable. It is in keeping with federal law and policy. It is in the best interest of the tribes AND their Maine neighbors. If the state of Maine feels there is a need for some tribal land for a genuine and urgent public purpose, this bill would ensure prior consultation with the tribes. This is the only way to get to constructive solutions by mutual agreement.

It is time to correct this unfair and inequitable double standard and include Maine's federally recognized tribes in this national provision.

Thank you, Barbara Vickery Richmond, ME