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LD 958

The 1980 Act to Implement the Maine Indian Claims Settlement is an embarrassment to all who live in the state. I fully support its amendment to prohibit the state to exercise Eminent Domain on tribal lands. In my view, the state has no right to take such action. Respectful consultation with the Wabanaki Nations, who are the sovereign owners of the land, is the only acceptable way to find a just and honorable path forward. I strongly urge the passage of LD 958, a measure that should be enacted not by any partisan standard of self-interest but on the basis of human decency and fairness, too long absent in the state's relationship with the indigenous people who have lived on the land we now call Maine for centuries before its colonization.