

April 2, 2025

Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and Esteemed Members of the Judiciary Committee,

My name is Ashley Schumacher, I live in Freeport, and am writing today to urge you to vote “ought to pass” on LD 958, An Act to Prohibit Eminent Domain on Tribal Lands.

This bill, if enacted, would ensure certain land protections at the State level and move the Passamaquoddy, Penobscot, Houlton Band of Maliseet, and Mi'kmaq peoples closer to tribal sovereignty, which we all ought to support.

This bill does **not** prevent collaboration between the Wabanaki Nations and the State of Maine. Rather, it creates parameters in which any tribal lands that may become property of the state for infrastructure, are restored to the tribes in the form of an equitable amount of land agreed upon by both parties. It fosters cooperation between two distinct governments: the tribal governments and the state government. Moreover, it brings Maine into compliance with federal standards.

As a citizen of Maine, living on land stolen from the Wabanaki people, I support this bill because it promotes tribal sovereignty and the preservation of lands within the Wabanaki Nation.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Ashley Schumacher, Freeport

Ashley Schumacher
Freeport
LD 958

April 2, 2025

Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and Esteemed Members of the Judiciary Committee,

My name is Ashley Schumacher, I live in Freeport, and am writing today to urge you to vote “ought to pass” on LD 958, An Act to Prohibit Eminent Domain on Tribal Lands.

This bill, if enacted, would ensure certain land protections at the State level and move the Passamaquoddy, Penobscot, Houlton Band of Maliseet, and Mi’kmaq peoples closer to tribal sovereignty, which we all ought to support.

This bill does not prevent collaboration between the Wabanaki Nations and the State of Maine. Rather, it creates parameters in which any tribal lands that may become property of the state for infrastructure, are restored to the tribes in the form of an equitable amount of land agreed upon by both parties. It fosters cooperation between two distinct governments: the tribal governments and the state government. Moreover, it brings Maine into compliance with federal standards.

As a citizen of Maine, living on land stolen from the Wabanaki people, I support this bill because it promotes tribal sovereignty and the preservation of lands within the Wabanaki Nation.

Thank you for your time and consideration,
Ashley Schumacher, Freeport