

Theodore Kanellakis
Camden,
LD 958

As a resident of Maine living in Camden on Penobscot Territory, I am grateful to Maine Rep. Billy Bob Faulkingham for sponsoring LD 958 and all the co-sponsoring legislators who are demonstrating their support for our Wabanaki Tribal Nations neighbors. There has been so much unfortunate history here in Maine reflected in legislation which has continued to deny recognition of Tribal Sovereignty, and hindering steps towards justice and fairness in their realization of Self Determination. The Wabanaki Nations should not be treated differently from other federally recognized tribes. This bill promotes fairness, respects sovereignty, and seeks to prevent future injustices. LD 958 restores a fundamental principle that Wabanaki Nations are Sovereign governments with inherent power to regulate their territories. I along with so many others recognize this as a vitally important action toward a more harmonious and productive relationship with those whose ancestral roots predating settler occupation here, are undeniably unappreciated. That needs to change. This is an important action and step for that to happen. I respectfully request your support and votes so that LD 958 be sent forward as 'Ought to Pass' and become law.
Respectfully submitted,
Theodore Kanellakis, Camden, Maine