Mary Dunn Whitefield LD 1474

Dear Education and Cultural Affairs Committee Members,

Please pass the important L.D. 1474.

As a retired teacher who taught 5th grade the last 10 years of my career I was proud to see Wabanaki Studies a part of Maine's curriculum. What I didn't expect was the lack of training and resources to teach this effectively.

It is important that teachers receive training and Wabanaki voices guide this training. As a teacher trying to teach mandated Wabaniki lessons I constantly struggled to find guidance and resources. This resulted in an incredible loss of valuable planning time and presenting subpar lessons to my students.

Our teachers and students deserve better. Pass L.D. 1474 to finally supply the resources needed to effectively implement this mandate appropriately and in a way we feel proud.

Thank you, Mary Dunn Whitefield, ME