

Myke Johnson  
Portland  
LD 1474

Please support LD 1471. Teaching Wabanaki studies became a legal requirement in 2001, but teachers and school districts still struggle to offer curricula to meet that requirement. All of us benefit when we are in right relationship with our Wabanaki neighbors, and that is advanced by good education for all students and teachers.

LD 1474 supports a permanent position at DOE to develop Wabanaki Studies curriculum and resources for all Maine schools. Currently, a Wabanaki citizen holds this significant position, but this bill would fund it permanently.

LD 1474 makes Wabanaki voices integral to curricular and professional development. The bill requires the Maine Department of Education to continue funding for contracted Wabanaki advisors working with the Wabanaki Studies Specialist to create and implement professional development short-term courses for teachers. These courses must be made available to teachers throughout the state.

LD 1474 supports enrichment of Maine school resources and activities. The bill provides funds for which school administrative districts can apply to support Wabanaki Studies activities and resources. Let's put our money where the state has made a commitment.