

Brenda Franey
South Portland
LD 1474

TO: Senator Rafferty, Representative Murphy, and Members of the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

FROM: Brenda Franey, 72 Simmons Rd., South Portland

RE: LD 1474; Compliance on Teaching Wabanaki Studies in K - 12

I am writing to ask you support in passing LD 1474. In essence, this is a similar bill that was passed last year but died for lack of funding. But, we need to try again! The Wabanaki Studies Law has been in effect since 2001 but has been implemented in a spotty manner throughout the state. My 10 year old grandson is fortunate enough to be in a school district that does offer Wabanaki studies and he loved it and realized that our Wabanaki neighbors are 'here' and their culture is valuable.

My daughter is a middle school teacher...our teachers and schools are often underfunded and under supported. In addition, creating a new curriculum requires support to ensure the materials are prepared in a sensitive and accurate manner.

Please vote "ought to pass" on LD 1474 so we can try again to get our Wabanaki Studies Law fully implemented. Thank you for your consideration and your service to the state of Maine.