

Fayre Makeig  
Belfast  
LD 339

To: Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs  
From: Fayre Makeig, 10 Sandalwood Rd, Belfast ME 04915  
Date: April 22, 2025

RE: Testimony in support of L.D. 1474, “An Act to Strengthen the Teaching of Wabanaki Studies in Maine Schools”

Senator Rafferty, Representative Murphy, and members of the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs,

My name is Fayre, and I am a parent of two young children living in Belfast, Maine.

I am testifying in support of L.D. 1474, “An Act to Strengthen the Teaching of Wabanaki Studies in Maine Schools,” because I believe it is incredibly important for my children to learn about the indigenous communities surrounding them. Sadly, I had no such education in public schools when I was a child. I am so excited when my children come home from class, and can share Penobscot and Abenaki words for everyday things. I am learning from them, and it’s a joy to see their pride, as they learn words from these languages, and also benefit from a perspective on flora and fauna that is different—more inclusive, more understanding and open—than my own, and thus than anything I can teach them myself.

For these reasons, I respectfully encourage you to support L.D. 1474. Thank you for your time and consideration of my testimony.

Sincerely,

Fayre Makeig