

Starr Richards
Greenfield Twp
LD 1474

My name is Starr Richards and I am a retired teacher. I live in Greenfield Township.
[L] I am testifying in support of LD 1474 because I strongly believe that teachers need
[SEP] accurate information and resources when implementing Wabanaki studies instruction
into their curriculum. [L] [SEP]

I've been retired for about eight years now. When I was teaching I knew a certain
number of Wabanaki lessons was required, but I always felt so inadequate developing
lessons. It was important to me, teaching and living in a community next-door to
Penobscot Nation, having former classmates, friends, neighbors, and students from
Penobscot Nation, that my instruction was accurate, truthful and respectful. [L] [SEP]

I did many searches on my own to make lesson plans that went deeper than the
general Thanksgiving, Pilgrim and Indians theme. I asked our administration
repeatedly to please put some resources into the budget that would support our
instruction. Obviously nothing was out there. [L] [L] [L] [SEP] [SEP] What I see coming out of the
Department of Education today to support teachers instruction is wonderful. The
Wabanaki Education Specialist has brought exciting instructional materials to the
table. I so wish I had been able to access this kind of support. It is important that
Educators have accurate quality lesson plans and resources. For this reason I support
LD 1474.