

Katherine Rhoda
Hiram
LD 1474

Dear Committee Members,

My name is Katherine Rhoda. I live in Hiram, Maine.

I respectfully urge your support for LD 1474. A measure like this is long overdue. All the best will in the world has not been enough to make good on the promises of the 21-year-old Wabanaki Studies Law; it requires practical resources to implement meaningfully. This bill is an excellent step.

No longer will districts and teachers be left to cope with the Wabanaki studies mandate on their own without adequate orientation. If LD 1474 passes it will support a permanent position at the Maine Department of Education to develop Wabanaki Studies curriculum and resources for all Maine schools. It will integrate Wabanaki voices into curricular and professional development. It will support teachers in readying themselves to provide instruction in Wabanaki Studies, and it will also support enrichment of Maine school resources and activities.

Please support LD 1474.

Thank you for your time, your attention, and your public service!