Mackenzie Krol Fryeburg LD 1474

To: Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

From: Mackenzie Krol, 745 Main Street, Fryeburg, 04037, High School Teacher

MSAD 72 Date: 4/23/2025

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 Mackenzie Krol , and I am a social studies teacher at Fryeburg Academy and I live in Fryeburg.

I am testifying in support of L.D. 1474, "An Act to Strengthen the Teaching of Wabanaki Studies in Maine Schools," because I believe Wabanaki studies are essential to the history, livelihoods, and communities of Maine. As young people are exposed to the cultures, histories, and people of the state of Maine, they form their own views, beliefs and understanding of the world in which they live. Including Wabanaki studies throughout their education builds an informed generation, better attuned to the environment, land, and people of their state. My own curriculum has benefitted from educational opportunities and professional development with Brianne Lolar's position at the DOE and Wabanaki Advisors. Textbooks are often stagnant, one-sided narratives, and the dynamic support of Lolar's position in developing contemporary materials for teachers, students, and schools is vital to the pursuit of Wabanaki studies in the education of Mainers.

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

Sincerely,

Mackenzie Krol