

Nancy Kurtz  
Topsham  
LD 395

Senators and Representatives, members of the Joint Standing Committee on the Judiciary

My name is Nancy Kurtz. I am a resident of Topsham, Maine and am testifying in support of LD 395. I submit these remarks as a member of the Unitarian Universalist faith tradition which affirms and promotes justice, equity and compassion in human relations and the inherent worth and dignity of every person.

I support LD 395 and believe it should become law to correct the situation that has been in effect since the 1980 Maine Indian Settlement Act, which deprives Wabanaki tribes in Maine of the benefits of federal laws which apply to more than 570 federally recognized tribes in the U.S. unless specifically authorized under that law, which rarely occurs. It is time to correct this situation and to allow Wabanaki tribes in Maine to access the benefits that will allow them to flourish economically as other federally recognized tribes have done, to the benefit not only of the tribes but of the local and state economies where the tribes are located.

This bill will benefit both Wabanaki tribes and all citizens of Maine.

I urge you to vote Ought to Pass on LD 395

Thank You.