

My name is Caron Chess. I am a resident of Peaks Island and support LD395.

My Jewish identity compels me to support the Wabanaki. The genocide of the Jews took place over four years and is labelled a crime against humanity.

The genocide of the Wabanaki has occurred over hundreds of years. It is easier to escape notice so most Maine residents have no understanding of what we have done and are doing to the tribes.

However, the results are well-documented. We owe the Wabanaki the ability to benefit from the laws that help all the other federally recognized tribes. Federal programs that helped 570 other tribes create thousands of jobs and generate hundreds of millions in economic activity should apply here in Maine.

I believe many Maine residents will benefit from the economic boost likely to come from the Wabanaki being supported by these laws. Ultimately, blocking access to federal programs that would bring more money to the Wabanaki is self-defeating for Maine.

For all these reasons, I believe the State of Maine has a moral imperative and an economic incentive to allow the social and other economic programs that apply to the other federal tribes to benefit the tribes in Maine.

Please vote ought to pass on LD395.

Thank you.

Caron Chess

Peaks Island, 04108

Caron Chess
Peaks Island
LD 395

I wish to only submit written testimony