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LD 395

The Wabanaki Nations are the only federally recognized tribes that must be explicitly written into each federal law to benefit from it. LD 395 would modernize the 1980 Maine Indian Claims Settlement Act (MICSA) and the Aroostook Band of Micmacs Settlement Act so that the Wabanaki Nations can benefit from most existing and future federal laws that apply to the other 570 federally recognized tribes.

This would benefit the Wabanaki Nations and rural Maine. Federal self-determination can lead to the creation of thousands of jobs and hundreds of millions of dollars in goods and services produced by Native businesses. LD 395 would address 40 years of missed opportunities for the Wabanaki Nation. These include emergency funds for natural disasters and public health crises and authority for federal environmental programs on their to protect water quality, ensure clean drinking water, and to restore wildlife and marine habitats on their land.