

Jody Bachelder
Brunswick
LD 395

Dear Sen. Carney, Rep. Kuhn, and members of the Joint Standing Committee on
Judiciary,

I am writing in support of LD 395, An Act to Restore Access to Federal Laws
Beneficial to the Wabanaki Nations.

I believe that Maine should amend the 1980 Maine Indian Claims Settlement Act and
the Aroostook Band of Micmacs Settlement Act so that the Wabanaki tribes can
benefit from most existing and future federal laws that apply to the more than 570
other federally recognized tribes. The settlement has proven to be harmful in many
ways to the Wabanaki, especially in terms of their health and economic prosperity.

Please grant them the same rights that all other federally recognized tribes have. How
can it possibly benefit the citizens of Maine to suppress these rights?

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Jody Bachelder

As we teach the children in our schools about Wabanaki history and culture, they will
ask us why the Wabanaki are treated like second-class citizens. There is no good
answer to that. Please right the wrong that has been done; when the Wabanaki
prosper, we all prosper.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Jody Bachelder