

Barbara Vickery
Richmond
LD 785

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

From: Barbara Vickery, 56 Iceboro Road, Richmond, ME 04357

Re: Support for LD 785, An Act to Advance Self-determination for Wabanaki
Nations

Sen. Carney, Rep. Kuhn and members of the Judiciary Committee, my name is
Barbara Vickery and I live in Richmond. I am writing in support of LD 785

The Settlement Act was developed 40 years ago. Even at the time it was understood it
was part of an evolution and made provisions for it to be amended and modernized. It
is long past time to take necessary steps towards actually accomplishing the ultimate
purposes of righting the historical wrongs done to the Wabanaki nations in Maine.

This bill would restore to Maine tribes the ability to self-govern available to all other
federally recognized tribes across the country. The key components of LD 785 were
the result of a bipartisan commission that developed 22 consensus recommendations.
It has bi partisan support in the legislature and the overwhelming support of Maine
people. It is fair and just.

Notably, we should trust the tribes to take care of their own lands. They have proven
themselves excellent carers for land, water and wildlife over centuries when given the
chance.

Please send this to the full legislature with an Ought to Pass.

Thank you