

Emma Donovan  
Benton  
LD 1054

Senator Talbot Ross, Representative Pluecker, and members of the Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry Committee,

My name is Emma Donovan and I would like to encourage you to support Bill LD1054.

This bill would clarify language in the Maine Conservation Easement Act to enhance opportunities for the Wabanaki Nations to access the same legal tools as land trusts and municipalities, allowing them to better care for Wabanaki lands and culturally important sites.

The bill would expand the definition of “conservation easement” to include easements that preserve the historical, architectural, archaeological, or cultural aspects of a property.

This language is similar to legislation in California that tribes there have used to expand tribal nations’ access and land holdings.

Members of the Wabanaki nations in Maine have proven from time immemorial that they are the best stewards of the lands and natural resources and they should be given every possible opportunity to do so going forward.

The result would be beneficial to all parties involved.

Regards,  
Emma Donovan  
Benton, ME