



# Permanent Commission **RACIAL, INDIGENOUS & TRIBAL POPULATIONS**

## **LD 1432 “An Act to Amend the Law Governing Racial Impact Statements”**

**February 06, 2024**

Senator Nangle, Representative Stover, and Honorable Members of the State and Local Government Committee.

My name is Ariel Ricci, and I am the Executive Director of the Permanent Commission on the Status of Racial, Indigenous, and Tribal Populations. The Permanent Commission's role is to examine racial disparities across all systems and advise Maine State Government on ways to improve the status and outcomes of historically disadvantaged racial, Indigenous, and tribal populations.

The Permanent Commission supports LD 1432 because it advances Maine's ability to take an evidence-based approach to policy-making, by ensuring that demographic data is brought before joint standing or select committees of the Legislature.

The Permanent Commission considers that accurate, consistent, and complete data is critical to understanding the needs and experiences of the diverse populations that the Maine State Government serves and to assess the efficacy of programs and policies.

In order to support the goals of LD 1432, the Permanent Commission will continue to work with the Data Governance Working Group to improve the consistency of collection of demographic data and improve the ability to provide de-identified data analyses to policy makers.