



Craig V. Hickman
Senator, District 14

THE MAINE SENATE
132nd Legislature

3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Testimony of Senator Craig V. Hickman introducing
LD 14, An Act to Provide Indigenous Peoples Free Access to State Parks
Before the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry
Tuesday, March 11, 2025

Senator Talbot Ross, Representative Pluecker, honorable and esteemed colleagues on the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, my name is Craig Hickman and I am proud to represent Senate District 14, which includes twelve municipalities in southern Kennebec County including my beloved hometown of Winthrop in the center of the beautiful Winthrop Lakes Region. Thank you for the opportunity to present LD 14, "An Act to Provide Indigenous Peoples Free Access to State Parks," to the Committee today.

It's self-explanatory, it's fair, it's necessary. It will include advancing and improving our tribal-state relations. The Wabanaki people, whose land we serve on, deserve to be able to enjoy the unceded land that belongs to them for free. I have a couple constituents who thought this was already the case, and I thought this was already the case, so I have put in this bill to make it so.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to introduce this bill.

Craig V. Hickman
State Senator, District 14