

I am writing in support of LD 785 and sovereignty for the Indigenous tribes in Maine, and I ask that your committee vote ought to pass. This is important and long overdue. For 40 years, Maine has moved in the opposite direction from that of federal support for Indigenous self-determination. The need for sovereignty for the tribes in Maine is immediate and necessary. The tribes are asking to be treated like the other 570 federally recognized tribes in the United States. For these reasons, I urge this committee to vote "ought to pass" on LD 785, An Act to Enact the Remaining Recommendations of the Task Force on Changes to the Maine Indian Claims Settlement Implementing Act.

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