



SIERRA CLUB

MAINE CHAPTER

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To: Committee on Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry

From: Becky Bartovics, Sierra Club Maine

Date: March 31, 2021

Re: Testimony in Support of LD 870 **Resolve, Directing the Permanent Commission on the Status of Racial, Indigenous and Maine Tribal Populations To Study the Impact of Policies Regarding Agriculture, Access to Land, Access to Grants and Access to Financing on African-American and Indigenous Farmers in the State**

Senator Dill, Representative O'Neil, and Members of the Joint Committee on Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry, I write on behalf of the more than 20,000 members and supporters of Sierra Club Maine to urge you to support LD 870.

One of Sierra Club's primary values is to advocate for and ensure environmental justice. It is high time that parity is assured in our dispensation of support for Maine's Indigenous, Tribal and Communities of Color.

Representative Pluecker's bill will provide a very important means for those communities to benefit in a way that has been closed to them over the long history of exclusion.

We urge 'Ought to Pass' for LD 870.

Sincerely,

Becky Layton Bartovics

Chapter Volunteer Leadership