

Ariel Morgan

Belfast

LD 813

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing to oppose the passage of LD 813. Tribal recognition in this country is determined by the federal government, through a rigorous process which 574 tribes have completed. This act would circumvent that process, creating confusion and misinformation. Furthermore, Maine's four federally recognized tribes already exist in a troubling grey area because the State of Maine has refused to grant them the sovereignty guaranteed to all other federally recognized tribes. To create yet another category of tribal recognition in this complicated and highly sensitive arena would do great damage to the trust between the tribes of the Wabanaki Confederacy and the State of Maine.

Thank you,