

Camilla Beale  
Brunswick  
LD 958

Dear Senator Carney , Representative Kuhn, and Members of the Judiciary Committee: I am writing in support of LD 958- An Act to Prohibit Eminent Domain on Tribal Lands . I am a resident of Brunswick, and a member of the Episcopal Committee on Indian Relations, Midcoast Indigenous Group and the Pejepscot Portage Mapping Project.

I have a good friend whose land was threatened to be taken over by eminent domain very recently, I know how devastating that threat was for her and her neighbors and they had lived , built and planted there for only 50 years, I am also a student of precolonial and colonial history here and have heard stories of continuing loss of land and waters by Wabanaki people, the loss of which made their previous sustenance practices and cultural lifeways impossible.

In relatively recent times Maine Route 190 which cuts through the center of the Passamaquoddy Reservation at Sipayik was taken by Eminent Domain without tribal input or consultation. I know I would feel helpless and lost if the land where I currently live and where my ancestors lived in about 1720 were taken from me without my consent. I can only imagine the harm done when people who reside there are descendants of people who been there for thousands of years.

LD 958 would ensure that no such action happens again without tribal consent. I urge you to vote in favor of this legislation

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