

Mary DiMarco
Houlton
LD 958

Testimony in Support of LD 958
An Act to Prohibit Eminent Domain on Tribal Lands

Submitted for the Public Hearing Before the Maine Legislature's Judiciary
Committee, April 4, 2025

I am writing to urge you to support LD 958, An Act to Prohibit Eminent Domain on Tribal Lands. This bill would protect the Wabanaki Nations from having tribal lands taken by the state of Maine through eminent domain and without consultation. Most other tribes in the United States are already assured that their lands cannot be taken in this way, so LD 958, if passed into law, would bring the Wabanaki Nations into alignment with other federally recognized tribes. If there is a particular project that everyone agrees would benefit the state, the local community, and the tribe, there would be a process of negotiation through which all parties could collaborate to find a solution. A vote for this bill is a vote for fairness and respect of the Wabanaki Nations right to determine how their territories are used, preventing future injustices and harm.

Please vote "ought to pass" on LD 958.

Thank you for your consideration,
Mary Beth DiMarco, Houlton