

Leonid Eichfeld
Topsham
LD 958

Hello Senator Carney and Representative Kuhn,

My Name is Leonid Eichfeld, and I am testifying in strong support of LD 958 - An Act to Prohibit Eminent Domain on Tribal Lands. The protections this bill affords to the Wabanaki Nations are standard across the country, almost all other federally recognized tribes are afforded these kind of protections. The Wabanaki Nations deserve to have the same respect to their sovereignty as any other federally recognized tribe. The state of Maine often prides itself for the fairness and respect it gives to the people who live on this land, and the people of the Wabanaki Nations need to be treated with that fairness and respect. Taking tribal land without consultation is against federal policy, and eminent domain has a history of causing harm. The bills that LD 958 is amending will make it so collaboration and justice is possible. Wabanaki tribes deserve to have an empowered voice in what happens on their lands.

Thank you for your time and consideration.