

Brenda Franey
South Portland
LD 958

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72 Simmons Rd.
South Portland ME 04106

Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn and Honorable Members of the Joint Standing Committee Judiciary:

I write this testimony on behalf of the LD 958. My name is Brenda Franey and I live in South Portland. I am a member of the First Parish Unitarian Universalist Congregation's Wabanaki Ally Team.

It is ironic that the original people who cared for this land, now called Maine, and who have suffered through land seizures and treaty violations for hundreds of years; STILL have to worry about having their homeland seized through eminent domain.

For most federally recognized tribal nations in the United States, land cannot be taken without consultation. But, as we know, Maine is the exception due to the 1980 MIA Act. LD 958 would ensure that consultation and cooperation with the tribal nations must occur before any action is taken.

Please vote "Ought to Pass" on LD 958 to ensure tribal nations have a voice and the authority to regulate their own lands. Thank you for your consideration and your service to the state of Maine. Also, thank you to Representative Billy Bob Faulkingham for initiating this legislative action.

Sincerely,
Brenda Franey