

Kathryn Robyn
BELFAST
LD 958

Dear Judiciary Committee Members:

As a longtime Maine resident and voter, I urge you to support this bill that prohibits the use of Eminent Domain on Tribal Lands. This amendment to the so-called Land Claims Act of 1980, I believe, restores some semblance of justice and fairness to the inequities that have separated the Wabanaki's safety and security from the rest of the Indigenous peoples in the United States. Their exclusion from Federal Protections in all things is patently wrong.

Second, while the use of ED is controversial at best in all cases, taking land from the original people of this land, already robbed of their territories and culture by the colonies and states of this country since the English and Spanish invasions of this continent is beyond the pale. To think the Penobscot Nation, Passamaquoddy, Maliseet, and Mi'q Ma'q Tribes should not have complete sovereignty in this day and age is shameful and makes a sham of the rule of law and treaty. This bill supports collaboration; there is no threat to the white people of Maine if the Indigenous have rule over themselves and their unceded territory. Be on the right side of history and morality.

Vote yes and promote this bill forward.

Thanks you.