



Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and members of the Judiciary Committee, my name is Jeff Romano. I appreciate this opportunity to provide testimony on behalf of Maine Coast Heritage Trust in support of LD 958.

Maine Coast Heritage Trust (MCHT) seeks to advance the conservation of lands and waters in Maine to ensure ecological wellbeing and foster thriving communities. Over the past five decades, we have conserved more than 185,000 acres, including over 160 places open for traditional outdoor recreation.

Federal law protects most tribal nations from state-level eminent domain, but the 1980 Settlement Acts have resulted in the Wabanaki Nations being excluded from these federal protections. MCHT fully supports Wabanaki Nations not being further excluded from protections afforded most other tribal nations around the country. We encourage the committee to support LD 958.