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LD 395

It's high time, way past time in fact, for Maine to fully acknowledge the Wabanaki people's right to full federal rights as tribal nations. These entities should not be "wards of the state," but given some real autonomy and power to take care of their social, economic and environmental needs. Some 500 tribal nations elsewhere in the U.S. have these rights. They need to be honored and extended to the tribal nations here. I am proud to have worked with the tribes years ago, editing a newspaper called the Wabanaki Alliance. We were the first news organization to announce the land claims settlement. Now let's do the right thing and approve LD 395, restoring rights to the Wabanaki that never should have been taken away in the first place.