

Phyllis Chinlund
Brunswick
LD 395

Dear Senator Carney and members of the Judiciary Committee,
My name is Phyllis Chinlund, I live in Brunswick and am a member of the Thornton Oaks Social Justice Group and of MUUSAN.

As a retired social worker, when I look at the many reasons, economic, environmental, and social, to support LD 395, one thing stands out: fairness. Removing the jurisdictional barriers would help the Wabanaki Nations take advantage of federal self-determination policies, programs, and funding that elsewhere in Indian Country have led to the creation of thousands of jobs and hundreds of millions of dollars in goods and services produced by Native businesses. There is no valid reason for Maine's tribes to be denied equity with other federally recognized tribes. This moral principle should be our guide.

Phyllis Chinlund