

**To:** Sen. Carney, Rep. Kuhn, and members of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary

**From:** Emma Donovan 323 Albion Rd Benton, ME 04901

**Re:** Support for LD 785, An Act to Advance Self-determination for Wabanaki Nations

**Intro:** Sen. Carney, Rep. Kuhn and members of the Judiciary Committee, my name is Emma Donovan and I live Benton.  
I would like to urge you to support LD785.

For 40 years restrictions in the Maine Indian Claims Settlement Act have blocked the Wabanaki nations from exercising their right to self-govern. It's time we update our policies regarding the rights and authority of the Wabanaki nations to be in line with the other 570 federally recognized tribes in the United States.

It's the right thing to do for the children and future of the Wabanaki communities. It's the right thing to do for the environment, the Wabanaki have been the best stewards of the natural world for millenia and they will continue to do so. Also it makes economic sense, researchers have projected that tribal self-government would add \$330 million annually to Maine's GDP, create 2700+ jobs, and generate \$39 million yearly in state and local tax revenue.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Emma Donovan

Emma Donovan  
Benton  
LD 785