

Kristen Dorsey  
Freeport  
LD 395

To: Sen. Carney, Rep. Kuhn, and members of the Joint Standing Committee on  
Judiciary [SEP] From: Kristen Dorsey - Tirol Way - Freeport, Maine - 04032 [SEP] Re:  
Support for LD 395, An Act to Restore Access to Federal Laws Beneficial to the  
Wabanaki Nations

To our esteemed Sen. Carney, Rep. Kuhn and members of the Judiciary Committee,  
I am wholeheartedly in support of LD 395, as I was of the similar 2023 LD 2004,  
which was disgracefully vetoed by the governor. It is time to discard the State of  
Maine's arrogant obstructionism and open the legal pathway for the tribal  
co-inhabitants of this beautiful land to implement their distinct sovereign rights. To do  
otherwise implicitly undermines the merits of any beneficial federal policies which  
uplift the potential economic, social, and cultural progress of each of the Wabanaki  
communities.

What moral justification is there for the Maine legislative body to isolate the tribes of  
the Wabanaki Alliance from accessing policies, programs and funding designated to  
hundreds of other federally recognized tribes? Not only is this a shameful  
perpetuation of the colonizer attitude - it is an economic blunder. The Penobscot,  
Passamaquoddy, Mi'kmaq, Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians, have for thousands of  
years been exemplars of social, environmental, economic, resource management.  
Unhindered, the collective wisdom and skills brought into right relations with the  
State of Maine would be a significant and positively infusive contribution to all  
communities.

The rationale for this legislation has been deeply studied, clarified by data, and  
repeatedly justified over the past several years and will undoubtedly be emphasized  
today. The time is now to align our principles with the rest of the country in a  
commitment to allow the Wabanaki Nations in Maine to thrive. Advocates for this  
have been patient, measured... but persistent with the conviction that this movement is  
foundational to truly just and inclusive State governance.

With appreciation for your service and consideration,  
Kristen Dorsey  
Freeport, Maine  
Unceded Wabanaki Territory