

Committee on Judiciary
C/O Legislative Information Office
100 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

February 19th, 2026

RE: LD 785: *An Act to Enact the Remaining Recommendations of the Task Force on Changes to the Maine Indian Claims Settlement Implementing Act*

Dear Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and Members of the Judiciary Committee;

On behalf of the Center for an Ecology-Based Economy (CEBE), based in the town of Norway, we strongly urge you to support of LD 785: *An Act to Enact the Remaining Recommendations of the Task Force on Changes to the Maine Indian Claims Settlement Implementing Act*.

CEBE's mission is to engage communities in addressing the climate emergency. We organize, educate, and take a whole systems approach to the design and implementation of practical, ecological solutions for a just transition to a thriving, regenerative economy. Our work is strengthened and amplified through collaboration and we currently work with dozens of partners including NGOs, Tribal Nations, State agencies, municipalities, and businesses across Maine and the Northeast.

One of the collaborative roles that we are most dedicated to is our role as a member of the Wabanaki Alliance Tribal Coalition (WATC). As an active member of WATC since early in 2024, CEBE is honored to do all we can to support the full recognition of Wabanaki Nations' Tribal Sovereignty.

We are strongly committed to this work because we deeply believe it is our duty as citizens of Maine to take responsibility for the grave injustice that has been systematically perpetrated upon Wabanaki Nations and to stand with them in their efforts to achieve the justice that has too long been withheld. But also, because we believe Wabanaki Sovereignty is absolutely essential to the realization of our own vision of a truly just and regenerative economy in Maine and across the Northeast—an economy that supports, is in alignment with, and that meaningfully benefits the living systems upon which all life depends. We work to honor and uplift the voices, knowledge and wisdom of those who have been protecting the environment and maintaining sustainable ecological practices here in Maine for millennia.

Mainers overwhelmingly support Wabanaki self-determination - This could not be more clear as we travel the State on behalf of the Wabanaki Alliance, meeting with Mainers through our tabling efforts. The most common question we receive at these tabling events by far, goes



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something like, “Why does the Maine Government, time and time again, fail to adopt the legislation that would bring justice to the Wabanaki people? With your support of LD 785, let us hope we never have to try to answer this question again.

For the above reasons and more, we urge you to do all you can to remove the barriers that have kept the Wabanaki and their rural Maine neighbors from the economic resurgence achieved by other federally recognized tribes.

Thank you for your service to Maine, and for your consideration of this important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Roberta Hill'.

Roberta Hill
Bioregional Regeneration Strategist
CEBE Representative - Wabanaki Alliance Tribal Coalition
Center for an Ecology Based Economy

A handwritten signature in grey ink, appearing to read 'Ania Wright'.

Ania Wright
Executive Director
Center for an Ecology Based Economy