

Marjorie Monteleon
Southwest Harbor

Testimony in Favor of:

LD194: An Act To Prohibit Contributions, Expenditures and Participation by Foreign Government-owned Entities To Influence Referenda

The Province of Quebec continues to violate laws they swore to enforce, such as UNDRIP, which is the United Nations Declaration of the Rights Indigenous People which both Canada and the US ratified. This Declaration is the most comprehensive international instrument on the rights of indigenous peoples. It establishes a universal framework of minimum standards for the survival, dignity and well-being of the indigenous peoples of the world and it elaborates on existing human rights standards and fundamental freedoms as they apply to the specific situation of indigenous peoples.

Today the Indigenous People of Quebec are in dire straits as their country continues to violate their rights, the rights they swore to protect.. How about no electricity for one, while HQ wants to export electricity to Mass through Maine. Then no clean water, and the wild life they depend on for food contaminated also by the mercury build up behind the Romaine River Dam built to power Mass.

All the while Quebec is illegally trying all sorts of maneuvers on Maine that it won't allow in its own country. Foreign Interference.

HQ was assessed a \$35k fine last year by ethics after pleading guilty to spending \$100k to influence Maine voters before registering as a PAC, a clear violation of Maine's campaign law. This fine is the second-largest campaign violation fine in our state's history.

How about them changing their lobbying address to CT. to seem more US based and funneled an unprecedented \$9.2 million into their PAC last year, while the people displaced by their project are living in abject poverty and the world is in the throes of a pandemic.

And Maine should go along with this because Hydro Quebec says so, while repeatedly doing blatant illegal things? I think not!

It is well past time we Prohibit Contributions, Expenditures and Participation by Foreign Government-owned Entities to Influence Referenda and Ban Foreign Campaign Contributions and Expenditures in Maine Elections. Please do it NOW by enacting LD 194.