

TOWN OF HOULTON

21 WATER STREET HOULTON, MAINE 04730

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February 11, 2014

The Honorable Brenda Commander Chief, Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians 88 Bell Road Littleton, Maine 04730

Dear Chief Commander:

On behalf of the Houlton Town Council, we are pleased to offer this letter of support for the Band's efforts to establish a casino in Houlton. We understand this legislation is contained in LD 1298, An Act to Authorize the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians to Operate a Casino in Aroostook County.

We fully support the Band's efforts to develop a steady and profitable revenue stream for all of its programs and services to the tribal membership. The casino is an appropriate enterprise to provide economic stability to the Band.

Locating a casino in Houlton is logical as it will likely capture a good amount of traffic from neighboring New Brunswick. Houlton is a major port of entry that processes over 700,000 vehicles per year. It is also the beginning point of Interstate 95.

The Town of Houlton will also receive benefits from the casino. Many who come to the casino will stay in the area's motels, eat at our restaurants, and shop in our stores. The Town will also share in some of the profits of the casino that will help relieve some pressure from property taxes.

This project is good for the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians, good for the Town of Houlton, and good for the State of Maine. We recommend passage of LD 1298.

Chairman, Houlton Town Council

Eugene J. Conlogue

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Town Manager