



Office of the Lieutenant Governor

The State House
115 State Street , Montpelier, VT 05633
802-828-2226
www.ltgov.state.vt.us

David Zuckerman, Lieutenant Governor

Chair Sheldon and the Members of the House Committee on Natural Resources
Rep. Janet Ancel, Chair of House Committee on Ways and Means
Sen. Christopher Bray, Chair of Senate Committee on Natural Resources
Sen. Ann Cummings, Chair of Senate Committee on Finance

Vermont State House
115 State St.
Montpelier VT 05633

Re: Letter in Support of Free Hunting and Fishing Licenses for Vermont's Recognized Tribes (H.716)

Dear Chairs and Committee Members;

I would like to affirm my support, as Lt. Governor, in honoring the Abenaki's long standing claims to their Hunting and Fishing Rights in Vermont as described by the Attorney General's support letter dated February 5th, 2020. I appreciate the Attorney General's legal opinion that these rights to hunt and fish without restriction were codified and preserved in deeds, land grants, and treaties involving lands that are now known as the State of Vermont. Along with legal justification, I think this is the right thing to do.

I hope the General Assembly grants Vermont's State-recognized Native American Indian tribes access to free hunting and fishing licenses. It is time to honor the promises of our past while providing a means for the original Vermonters to continue to sustain their way of life.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "David Zuckerman".

David Zuckerman

Cc: Rep. Paul Lefebvre
Rep. Trevor Squirrell
Rep. Christopher Bates
Rep. Katherine "Kari" Dolan
Rep. Matthew Hill
Rep. James McCullough
Rep. Leland Morgan
Rep. Carol Ode
Rep. Harvey Smith
Rep. Thomas Terenzini
Rep. Marc Grimes
Pro Tem Tim Ashe
Speaker Mitzi Johnson
Commissioner Louis Porter