

We the Undersigned Tribe

Elnu Abenaki Tribe

May 18, 2020

Kwai nidôbak – Hello friends,

We send our greetings to President Pro Tem Senator Tim Ashe and House Speaker Representative Mitzi Johnson. Elnu Abenaki Tribe would like to affirm our full support for H.716, “An act relating to Abenaki hunting and fishing licenses” currently under consideration.

It is our understanding that this bill, introduced in the current session by Representatives Brumsted of Shelburne, Cina of Burlington, Webb of Shelburne, Austin of Colchester, Batchelor of Derby, Kitzmiller of Montpelier, and Patt of Worcester, continues to be on the legislative Action list. It has previously been endorsed in principal and substance by Attorney General TJ Donovan. We give our encouragement and endorsement to adoption of H.716 by all committees of oversight, and on the floor by the full Chambers. We appreciate the recent openings in diplomacy and communication that have developed with the Abenaki People and Vermont State government.

Should legislative leadership find it within their abilities to act on the several other Native-centric bills also under consideration in this session, we would likewise offer our support and thanks to you. These include H.178, H.212, H.407, H.880 (already moving), H.897, and H.918, along with JRH7 and the associated Task Force under consideration by the House GH&MA Committee.

Your consideration and diligence are much appreciated. Thank you for your continued work in these disruptive times.

Sincerely,



Chief Sagomo



Tribal Councilman