

Governor Scott has proclaimed the first week in May as Abenaki Recognition and Heritage week for the 5th consecutive year. All three members of our Federal Delegation has put out a statement of commemoration as well. On Tuesday, the entire House of Representatives were *unanimous* in their passing of the sister resolution that you are now considering today in support of the Abenaki Tribes of Vermont and our rich heritage. We are hoping that the Senate will also be a part of this wonderful acknowledgement of solidarity, not only for our culture but to work on uplifting our people living in Vermont all year round.

Solidifying and reaffirming our partnerships in all walks of life is always important to acknowledge. There is enough hate and destruction in the world we live in today. We ask for this resolution from the Senate out of mutual respect.

Thank you for considering my testimony. I have attached the supporting documents that I spoke about above.

Waolowzi (Be Very Well),

Don Stevens, Chief
Nulhegan Band of the Coosuk - Abenaki Nation