

A JOINT DECLARATION OF THE PENOBSCOT, PASSAMAQUODDY AND MICMAC NATIONS

WHEREAS, the Penobscot Nation, the Passamaquoddy Tribe and the Aroostook Band of Micmac, as distinct sovereign entities, share a government-to-government relationship with the State of Maine; and

WHEREAS, the Maine Indian Claims Settlement Act of 1980 recognized and affirmed the inherent, sovereign status of the Penobscot and Passamaquoddy, acknowledged that our internal affairs are not subject to regulation by the State of Maine and established that the State of Maine would no longer interfere with our self-governance and self-determination as federally-recognized, sovereign Indian tribes thus ending years of improper treatment as wards of the State; and

WHEREAS, the Aroostook Band of Micmac Settlement Act of 1991, was enacted to rectify the prior stripping of the Aroostook Band of Micmac's property rights, and to recognize and affirm the inherent sovereign status of said Nation, and to restore said Nation's inherent sovereign powers to govern itself by delegating to the State of Maine and the Aroostook Band of Micmac the authority to negotiate and consent to An Act to Implement the Aroostook Band of Micmac Settlement Act; and

WHEREAS, the State of Maine, through Executive Order 2015-006 of its Governor, has wrongfully asserted the Penobscot Nation, the Passamaquoddy Tribe and the Aroostook Band of Micmac, our people, lands and resources are subjects of the State of Maine; and

WHEREAS, the State of Maine, through its departments and agencies, including the Attorney General's Office, has repeatedly attempted to assert authority over the Penobscot Nation, the Passamaquoddy Tribe and the Aroostook Band of Micmac in contravention of our sovereign authority and to perpetuate us as wards of the State of Maine; and

WHEREAS, the State of Maine, through its legislature, has enacted laws that impact the culture, rights and resources of the Penobscot Nation, the Passamaquoddy Tribe and the Aroostook Band of Micmac in violation of our self-governing authority and without any consultation with or agreement by us; and

WHEREAS, the State of Maine has denied the application of beneficial federal legislation to the Penobscot Nation, the Passamaquoddy Tribe and the Aroostook Band of

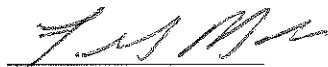
Micmac that is intended to advance tribal economies and promote the health, safety and welfare of native people and attempted to interfere with the federal trust relationship of the United States government to the Penobscot, Passamaquoddy and Micmac; and

WHEREAS, as a result of these actions, conditions within the Penobscot Nation, the Passamaquoddy Tribe and the Aroostook Band of Micmac communities related to economic development, public safety, health care and basic human necessities lag far behind the state average; and

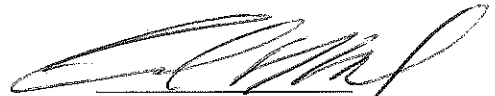
WHEREAS, despite numerous attempts by the Penobscot Nation, the Passamaquoddy Tribe and the Aroostook Band of Micmac to diplomatically resolve differences by consultation with the Governor's office and working cooperatively through the State legislative process, and participation in the Maine Indian Tribal-State Commission, no meaningful resolutions have occurred.

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, THE PENOBSCOT, PASSAMAQUODDY AND MICMAC NATIONS, HEREBY DECLARE:

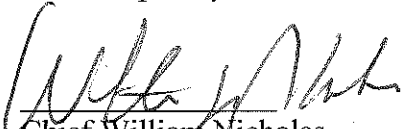
1. We do not recognize the authority of the State of Maine, its Governor, Legislature or Courts to define our sovereignty or culture or to interfere with our self-governing rights.
2. We recognize the Maine Indian Claims Settlement Act of 1980 and the Aroostook Band of Micmac Settlement Act of 1991 as confirming our sovereignty and call upon the United States, as our trustee, to convene a congressional inquiry and review of the actions of Maine that have resulted in a diminishment of our rights as federally-recognized, sovereign Indian tribes and of the adverse impacts upon our cultures, rights and resources.



Chief Fred Moore
Passamaquoddy at Pleasant Point



Chief Edward Peter-Paul
Aroostook Band of Micmac



Chief William Nicholas
Passamaquoddy at Indian Township



Chief Kirk E Francis
Penobscot Indian Nation