MEDIA ADVISORY

Bill Signing in Governor’s Office: 1:00 p.m.
Tribal Leaders’ Press Conference on Capitol Steps: 1:30 p.m.
June 14, State House

Governor King to Sign Penobscot Nation Tribal Representative Donna Loring’s Native American History Bill with State Tribal Leaders

Augusta – On Thursday, June 14 Governor King will sign LD 291, An Act to Require Teaching of Maine Native American History and Culture in Maine’s Schools sponsored by Penobscot Nation Rep. Donna Loring. Having been enacted by the House on Tuesday, June 5 and in the Senate on Thursday, June 7, LD 291 awaits Gov. King’s signature for Native American Studies to be implemented as a History requirement in Maine’s schools.

Following the bill signing in the Governor’s office, Tribal Leaders will participate in a Press Conference to discuss the importance of Native American Culture and explain their role in educating students throughout Maine.

Rep. Loring’s bill has been gaining interest from other Native American groups around the Country who wish to introduce similar programs into their respective state’s educational curriculum.

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March 11 Is Maine's First-Ever State of the Tribes Address

AUGUSTA-- Governor Richard Doyle of the Passamaquoddy Tribe at Pleasant Point, Governor Richard Stevens of the Passamaquoddy Tribe at Indian Township, and Governor Barry Dana of the Penobscot Nation will address a Joint Convention of the Maine Legislature on Monday, March 11, 2002. The "State of the Tribes Address," the first-ever in Maine's almost 182 year history is scheduled for 10:30 am in the House of Representatives.

Penobscot Butch Phillips and Passamaquoddy George Stevens will offer the Legislature's opening prayers. During the convention, there will be special sentiments in recognition of those who have contributed to the well being of Wabanaki people. Passamaquoddy and Penobscot children will serve as honorary pages.

Educational displays in the Hall of Flags, on the second floor of the State House, by Tribal Governments, tribal organizations, basketmakers, and other crafts people will backdrop the drum group who will help celebrate the day.

The Tribal Chief and Governors, Passamaquoddy Representative Donald Soctomah and Penobscot Representative Donna Loring, House Speaker Michael V. Saxl, and others will respond to the public at noon during a press conference regarding the "State of the Tribes Address".

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 19, 2002

Penobscot Nation Tribal Rep. Donna Loring Selected to Participate in
Prestigious Global Leadership Institute

Augusta — State Tribal Representative Donna Loring of the Penobscot Nation has been selected as a Fellow for the Eleanor Roosevelt Global Leadership Institute, a unique leadership development program that helps state legislators address the state and local impacts of globalization.

Rep. Loring joins a diverse group of 12 state legislators, selected from among more than 7,000 eligible state legislators across the nation, based on their leadership ability, dedication to public service, and interest in the impact of international issues on local and state policy. The select group of bipartisan state legislators will participate in an eight-month leadership program, culminating in a 10-day trip to Santiago, Chile in November.

Rep. Loring was chosen based on her civic experience and service as a Tribal Rep. to the Maine Legislature since 1997. Some of her accomplishments include: Penobscot Nation Police Chief from 1984-1990 (first female chief to graduate from academy in Maine), Aide de Camp to Gov. Angus King since 1999, recipient of the Mary Ann Hartman Award from the University of Maine's Women in Curriculum and Women's Studies Program, and graduate of Fleming Fellows Leadership Institute Class of 2001. Also, in 2001, Rep. Loring sponsored legislation that is now law requiring Native American Culture and History in primary and secondary education as a pre-requisite for high school graduation in Maine (the first law of its kind in the country).

"Through the Roosevelt Fellowship experience, state legislators discover that what sets them apart from other leaders, such as culture and language differences, are negligible compared to what brings leaders of all countries and cities together: shared values, concerns, and hope for a better future," said Institute Director Carolina Zumaran-Jones.

The Institute is named after Eleanor Roosevelt because it was her keen understanding of the concept of interdependence among nations that led to the creation and adoption of the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights. The Institute is run by the Center for Policy Alternatives (CPA), the nation's leading nonpartisan, progressive public policy and leadership development center. For more information about CPA and the Eleanor Roosevelt Global Leadership Institute, visit www.stateaction.org.

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