
PRESS RELEASE

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Former Congressman Bill Delahunt to Represent the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe

The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe today announced that former Congressman Bill Delahunt will represent the Tribe and its interests at the state and federal level. Delahunt is an attorney and Chairman of the Delahunt Group and represented the Massachusetts Tenth Congressional District from 1997-2010. He has had a long history of working with the Tribe and advocating on behalf of its concerns.

Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Chairman Cedric Cromwell described the new relationship as a natural extension of Delahunt’s longstanding advocacy on the Tribe’s behalf. “Bill has fought for our Tribe for years, defending us and advancing our interests a Member of Congress when few people would step forward on our behalf,” Cromwell said. “Our Tribe was fortunate to have him as our Congressman, and we are excited to have his voice and continued advocacy on our behalf.”

“I have had the privilege of working with the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe during my fourteen years in Congress, particularly on their efforts to receive federal recognition, which had been delayed for over thirty years,” Delahunt recalled. “The history of this Tribe’s dealings with our government is replete with bureaucracy, impasse, inertia, and sometimes outright hostility. The Tribe has rights as a sovereign nation, and more importantly, treating them with respect and helping them achieve self-sufficiency is simply the right thing to do. I am proud to represent them.”

The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe, with over 2,000 current enrolled members, has called present-day southeastern Massachusetts home for over 12,000 years. The Tribe was acknowledged in 2007 as a federally recognized tribe. As a sovereign nation, the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe works to provide housing, health care, education, cultural, and economic development services to its members.