

Gary McGrane  
Jay  
LD 206

My name is Gary McGrane and I live in Jay. I am a retired teacher from the University of Maine. I am the President of the Maine Education Association - Retired. I represent over 5000 active retirees. I am proud to speak Neither For Nor Against LD 206.

Our members can best be described as obeying the speed limit signs yet are punished via Maine PERS limited COLA increases. These limits have a discriminatory effect by deflating our dedicated educators. I ask this committee to consider the short- and long-term effects of keeping our most vulnerable aging citizens with enough retirement income to pay rent, buy groceries, and in many cases purchase prescription drugs. Please take into consideration the buying power of today's dollars when passing this budget and before the committee leaves this issue. Thank you in advance for any help you can provide for our retired dedicated workforce.