

To: Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs
From: Eric Schoff
Date: April 2, 2023
RE: Testimony in support of LD 51

Dear Senator Rafferty, Representative Brennan, and distinguished members of the committee, I am asking you to vote "ought to pass" on LD 51.

We live in Southwest Harbor and have a 17-year-old son who is a senior in high school. He has been homeschooled the past two years, due to the passage of LD 798. Prior to that he had been attending public school with a religious exemption.

Since the passing of LD798 we have been contemplating moving out of state. I manage the water treatment plant in our town, and my son volunteers for the local fire department and has aspirations to become a firefighter and paramedic. We love our community and don't want to leave. But my son cannot go to college here in Maine. If LD 51 were to pass he would be able to attend college here and we would be able to stay.

Thank you for reading my statement. Please vote "ought to pass" on this bill and allow my son to build his life here in Maine.

Thank you,
Eric Schoff & Family
Southwest Harbor, ME