Brian Pitman Orono LD 1656

Dear Maine State Legislature,

First, this comment is in my capacity as a private citizen. I am writing in support of LD1656 to increase student representation on the Board of Trustees. Given the amount of money students pay the university system (it is more than the state pays into the system), students should have a say on the BoT. In my experience, students are well-equipped to know what is needed on campus for themselves and for those in the broader community. Additionally, many public universities already have student-elected trustees. Given the increasing reliance student tuition continues to be on the UMS budget, they deserve to have significant representation on the board. They are our future and we do not have a university system without our students. Thank you.