

**MAINE  
PRINCIPALS'  
ASSOCIATION**



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**TO: Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs**  
**FROM: Maine Principals' Association Legislative Committee**  
**RE: Neither for Nor Against LD 1520: Resolve, Directing the Department of Education and Department of Health and Human Services to Study Placing Child Care Facilities in Secondary Schools**

**DATE: May 1, 2023**

Senator Rafferty, Representative Brennan, and distinguished members of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs. My name is Dr. Holly Blair, and I am the Executive Director of the Maine Principals' Association – Professional Division. The MPA represents more than 800 PreK-12 principals and assistant principals of public and private schools in Maine.

The MPA Legislative Committee is neither for nor against LD 1520.

We support the study being done to see if offering a child care facility in secondary schools. We believe for those schools who have the space and the capacity, that offering child care facilities for staff and for low-income community members of those schools could benefit those involved. We also support the possibility of offering child care course credit for high school students who are interested in working in those spaces.

Our concerns for this bill is that it is unclear if this is going to be expected in all secondary schools. Space and additional resources (such as people) may not be accessible for some secondary schools.

Another concern is that the bill is specific to only children of staff who work in that secondary school. While this could help a child care issue for those individuals who work in that one school, this would eliminate the possibility for other staff who work in the district. Should the bill be amended to allow for all staff in the district to access this child care facility in secondary schools who have the resources to create this space, we would more very likely to support this bill.

For these reasons, the MPA is Neither For Nor Against LD 1520.