



Maine School Superintendents Association



TESTIMONY NEITHER FOR NOR AGAINST

OFFICERS—2022-23

L.D. 1510

AN ACT TO PROVIDE GRANTS TO PROMOTE
INNOVATIVE LEARNING STRATEGIES

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Senator Rafferty, Representative Brennan and members of the Education and Cultural Affairs Committee. I am Eileen King, executive director of the Maine School Superintendents Association, testifying on behalf of the legislative committee of the Maine School Superintendents Association, neither for nor against L.D. 1510.

Innovation in classroom learning encompasses a variety of instructional strategies aimed at increasing student engagement, developing creativity, encouraging collaboration, and deepening understanding through the use of real-world issues.

In awarding grants, the department shall give special consideration to school administrative units that demonstrate instructional partnerships with professional organizations or companies and partnerships with institutions of higher education that provide specific data on closing the achievement gap for economically disadvantaged students, racial and ethnic populations and students whose learning achievements were negatively affected due to restrictions during the pandemic related to coronavirus disease 2019, referred to as COVID-19.

MSSA is neither for nor against L.D. 1510. We completely support the promotion of innovative learning strategies in Maine’s classrooms because we know that students learn best when their learning is relevant and meaningful. We are concerned that school units that already demonstrate instructional partnerships will receive special consideration for these funds. Perhaps the funds from this grant could be used to assist school districts across the state to establish these partnerships making the grant accessible to all school districts in Maine.

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