

I am writing as an alumni student of the Maine School of Science and Mathematics in support of LD 2118 - An Act to Provide Funding to the Maine School of Science and Mathematics Using the School Funding Formula Criteria. This institution is crucial for the advancement of Maine's brightest and most ambitious students. It houses students who are looking for the additional educational support as they continue to grow and develop before pursuing undergraduate degrees in areas of high importance to the advancement of not just the State of Maine but the United States as well. The support this school provides to Maine students is unrivaled with its level of rigor and mentorship for students, and I have seen personally how it has positively affected my own along with many of my peers' educational journeys, career opportunities and shaped them into dedicated and cognizant members of communities and universities across the country. Supporting this bill not only allows current students to continue to receive support and opportunities that MSSM has and will continue provide them, but also is a vessel to continue pouring into the fabulous students of Maine who are looking for new opportunities while staying in state. The State of Maine works to continue to evolve as median age remains above 40, and supporting schools like MSSM is a concrete and simple way to show your support for motivating younger generation to work and live in Maine by having a well-funded and prestigious high school as a viable option for Mainers of all backgrounds. I believe that supporting this bill and ultimately passing it will allow future development for Maine's youth and continue to strength Maine's appeal as these students mature and begin their adult lives.