

Testimony of Jon Reisman in support of LD 375

An Act to Require the University of Maine School of Law to Provide an Online Degree Program

Senator Rafferty, Representative Murphy, members of the Education and Cultural Affairs Committee:

My name is Jon Reisman. I am a University of Maine at Machias emeritus professor of economics and public policy and a Cooper Selectman. I was one of the first UMS faculty to teach over Interactive Television (ITV) in 1989-90.

Distance Education has been a blessing and a boon for the University of Maine System, our students and the people of Maine, especially in the 2nd Congressional District and throughout rural Maine.

In my opinion, program planners and Maine would be well served by a careful consideration of both the promise and peril of artificial intelligence as it may impact an on-line law degree.

I strongly urge the Committee to support greater educational access and geographic equity across the State and vote ought to pass.

I would be happy to answer any questions at jreisman@maine.edu