

William Trevaskis
MSAD8
LD 34

My name is Bill Trevaskis and I work at The Vinalhaven School (MSAD8) as the PreK-12 music teacher and local Association president. I live in the town of North Haven, so I take a small skiff to work each day. I am here today to testify in support of LD 34, An Act to Increase the Minimum Salary for Teachers.

As the largest PreK-12 island school in the state, we know all too well the effects of teacher turnover and increased cost of living, especially on the islands. LD 34 will help raise the bar for rural schools and make us competitive in a profession that is seeing shortages across the country. The state of Maine, and particularly Vinalhaven School, has an incredible history of local culture and bringing high quality professionals to teach at our schools is a direct investment in the students. I am urging you to support LD 34 for the benefit of our schools, teachers, and, most of all, our kids.