

Franck Ismael Ali SANOGO
OLD TOWN
LD 471

Dear Representatives,

My name is Franck, and I am writing to express my support for LD 471.

I am an international student at the University of Maine, and I personally know how difficult it is to learn English when arriving in a new country. When I first came to the United States, the language barrier was one of the biggest challenges I faced.

Understanding my classes, communicating with my professors, and even doing simple daily tasks like going to the bank or grocery shopping were difficult at first.

However, thanks to intensive English programs, I was able to improve, gain confidence, and eventually succeed in my studies. Today, I can see how much learning English has changed my life—it has not only allowed me to continue my education but also to connect with others and access better job opportunities.

This is why I fully support LD 471. This program will help others who, like me, had to overcome language challenges to succeed. Financial support for childcare, transportation, and living expenses is essential to ensure that more students and workers can access these classes without additional barriers. Additionally, training new TESOL teachers will ensure that English learning remains available for years to come.

I know how hard it can be to gain the language skills needed to succeed in a new country. Thank you for supporting this bill, as it will benefit many people and the state of Maine.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Franck Sanogo