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TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF

L.D. 74

AN ACT TO UPDATE THE SYSTEM OF LEARNING RESULTS REVIEW TIMELINE

February 27, 2025

Senator Rafferty, Representative Noonan Murphy and members of the Education and Cultural Affairs Committee. I am Eileen King, deputy executive director for Maine School Management Association, testifying on behalf of the legislative committees of the Maine School Boards Association and Maine School Superintendents Association in support of L.D. 74. This proposed change to transition the review cycle of Maine's content standards and performance indicators from a five-year to a seven-year cycle reflects a thoughtful and necessary adjustment to ensure a more effective and sustainable approach to curriculum review and implementation.

The Learning Results system plays a critical role in maintaining high academic standards for Maine's students, ensuring that our curriculum remains relevant, rigorous, and aligned with the needs of an evolving world. However, a five-year review cycle places significant demands on educators, administrators, and policymakers, often requiring frequent changes that can be disruptive to instruction, resource allocation, and long-term planning. Extending the review cycle to seven years will allow for a more deliberate, research-based approach to curriculum updates, giving schools the time needed to fully implement and assess the impact of changes before undertaking another revision.

By adopting a seven-year cycle, Maine will align itself with best practices in curriculum development, providing greater stability for schools while maintaining the integrity of our educational standards. I urge the committee to support this bill to promote a balanced and effective approach to curriculum review and implementation.