MAINE

PRINCIPALS'

ASSOCIATION



50 Industrial Drive Augusta, Maine 04330 (207) 622-0217

Fax: (207) 622-1513 Email: mpa@mpa.cc

Websites: https://mpaprof.org https://mpa.cc

Kimberly Liscomb Cony Middle/High School President

Stephen Bell
Dexter Regional High
School
President-elect

Michael R. Burnham Executive Director Interscholastic Division

Holly D. Blair Executive Director Professional Division

Michael G. Bisson Assistant Director

MPA is an Equal
Opportunity Organization

TO: Committee on Judiciary

FROM: Maine Principals' Association Legislative Committee

RE: In Support of LD 537: An Act to Prohibit the Doxing of Minors

DATE: March 3, 2025

Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and distinguished members of the Committee on Judiciary. My name is Dr. Holly Blair, and I am the Executive Director of the Maine Principals' Association – Professional Division. The MPA represents more than 700 PreK-12 principals and assistant principals, CTE directors and assistant directors, and athletic directors of public and private schools in Maine.

The MPA Legislative Committee supports the passing of LD 537. We write today in strong support of LD 537, An Act to Prohibit Doxing of Minors. As school leaders, our foremost responsibility is ensuring the safety, well-being, and development of our students. We strive to instill values of respect, kindness, and integrity—values that should extend beyond our schools and guide our society as a whole.

Unfortunately, we have seen how these principles are too often disregarded when minors become the targets of online harassment. The recent doxing of Maine students highlights the urgent need for this legislation. When a child's private information is exposed to the public without consent, their safety, mental health, and sense of security are placed at risk—consequences no young person should have to endure.

Doxing—the deliberate public release of personal information with the intent to harass or harm—can lead to threats, intimidation, and lasting psychological distress. Adolescents, who are still developing emotional resilience, are especially vulnerable to such attacks. Recent cases involving student athletes in Maine illustrate the profound and immediate harm that doxing inflicts. Some students have faced severe harassment and threats, creating an unsafe environment not only for themselves but also for their peers, families, and school communities. No minor should be subjected to such trauma—especially at the hands of an adult in a position of power. These incidents are stark reminders of the damage done when basic decency is cast aside, and they call for urgent action.

As educators, we believe every child deserves to learn and grow in an environment free from fear and intimidation. Children should never be used as pawns in political or social conflicts. Instead, we must uphold our responsibility to protect and uplift young people, fostering a culture of dignity and respect.

We urge this committee to stand with us in defending Maine's youth by advancing LD 537. This legislation is not just about preventing harm; it is about affirming our commitment to a more just, compassionate, and humane future—one where children are safeguarded, and where kindness prevails over division.