

GORHAM SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

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March 11, 2025

Senator Joseph Rafferty, Chair
Representative Kelly Murphy, Chair
Joint Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs
Legislative Information Office
100 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Re: Opposition to LD 282


Dear Senator Rafferty, Representative Murphy, and Honorable Members of the Committee,

I write in opposition to LD 282, which seeks to raise the cap on public charter schools in Maine. As a superintendent, I have supported public charter schools that meet specific community needs while adhering to public school standards. The original law achieved this balance, allowing innovative programs to serve students who benefit from alternative learning environments.

However, further expanding the number of charter schools would divert much-needed funding from public schools without clear evidence of improved student outcomes. Our current system already provides sufficient choice without destabilizing public education. Increasing charters beyond this point risks harming both existing public schools and public charter schools alike.

I urge you to vote NO on LD 282 to maintain a stable and equitable education system. Thank you for your time, and I am happy to serve as a resource on this issue.

Sincerely,



Superintendent of Schools
Gorham School Department