

Steve Eagles
Dresden
LD 1089

Members of the Tasation committee. My name is Steve Eagles and I live in Dresden and urge you to support LD 1089. It is no news that the cost of everything has grown greatly over the last decade and current tax receipts have not been able to cover the cost. My three children all attended Richmond Schools and I served on the Richmond School committee. I do not have to tell you the multiple problems and inequities in local property has so we have long lobbied for and received a commitment that the state will provide 50% of the cost.

Maine has become a popular retirement home for many very wealthy people who can easily pay a 4% surcharge on incomes over \$1,000,000 - an extraordinary amount of money for anyone in one year. There is no evidence that this will cause anyone to leave the state as has been seen in New Jersey, Massachusetts, and California. Maine needs more tax revenue and most of us less wealthy cannot afford tax increases. Those with incomes over one million dollars per year can certainly increase their contribution to the education of our children. Please pass this legislation to keep Maine fiscally sound. Thank you for your service.