



March 25, 2025

Re: LD 1089 An Act to Permanently Fund 55 Percent of the State's Share of Education by Establishing a Tax on Incomes of More than \$1,000,000

To: Senator Grohoski, Representative Cloutier, and members of the Taxation Committee:

The Maine Chapter of the Freedom From Religion Foundation (MC-FFRF) writes to testify IN FAVOR OF LD 1089, which would fund 55 percent of the state's share of education by establishing a tax on incomes of more than \$1,000,000.

You must know that this is actually a very simple issue. It is just not right that millionaires pay a rate similar to teachers, if not less after other manipulations. This issue is beyond even that. This is about fair treatment of tax payers as well as supporting public education. Anyone earning over \$1 million should pay at least a slightly higher rate than the teachers their taxes would support. Plus, the ultra-rich have seen their taxes go down thanks to the tax cuts of the past several years, which benefited them at a very high level. Having them pay a higher rate would spread the tax obligations more fairly.

It is projected that this bill could raise over \$100 million for education. This would be a solid investment in our state's future, providing benefits for all students and eventually all citizens of Maine – unlike the tax cuts which benefit a wealthy elite. It's time for that wealthy class to contribute their fair share of taxes – otherwise, working families are shouldering more than their fair share.

For the reasons provided above, MC-FFRF urges the committee to vote "Ought To Pass" regarding LD 1089. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Ray Vensel, President