

Public Testimony on 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”

Wednesday, March 26, 2025

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

I am writing to express my strongest support for LD 1089. Passing this bill will ensure the State of Maine continues its commitment to fund education at 55%. This is a vital cause not only for the future of every young Mainer, but it makes good fiscal sense statewide. School systems represent the largest costs for every town and municipality in our state, and continuing state funding for the majority would provide much needed stability to local budgets.

Three of my closest friends are teachers. They love their students and put in long hours doing whatever they can to help them. Each year, they and their colleagues organize online fundraisers for books, supplies, tech devices, and even furniture to make up for the lack of funding they receive. Their parents, colleagues, student’s parents, and friends, including myself, all chip in. I think that requiring Mainers with seven figure incomes to pitch in a little extra is more than fair.

Opponents of this bill will likely trot out the same tired argument that increasing taxes on the wealthiest Mainers will cause them to leave our state in droves. The fact is, a study cited by the American Sociological Association<sup>1</sup> that looked at more than a decade of migration patterns based on income levels found that millionaires are less likely to relocate than other individuals. Many are deeply rooted in our communities, having built successful business relationships in our state.

I ask that you support the futures of all young Mainers by voting “ought to pass” on LD 1089. Thank you for your attention and your dedicated service to our beautiful state.

Sincerest regards,

Shaun Donnelly  
Arundel, ME

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.asanet.org/news\\_item/do-millionaires-move-across-states-avoid-taxes/](https://www.asanet.org/news_item/do-millionaires-move-across-states-avoid-taxes/)

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