

# MAINE PRINCIPALS' ASSOCIATION



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*MPA is an Equal  
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**TO: Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs**

**FROM: Maine Principals' Association Legislative Committee**

**RE: In Opposition of LD 174: An Act to Restore Religious Exemptions to Immunization Requirements**

**In Opposition of LD 727: An Act to Repeal Certain Immunization Requirements for Schools**

**DATE: April 7, 2025**

Senator Rafferty, Representative Murphy, and distinguished members of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs. 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 of public and private schools in Maine.

The MPA Legislative Committee is in opposition of LD 174 and LD 727. We are not medical experts; we are educational experts. Our ultimate job is to keep kids safe in school and teach them.

We support vaccinations required by the CDC. If these medical experts state that to keep students safe, they must have vaccinations, we support this.

We recognize that the passing of this bill reverts to when parents had the right to exempt their children from some vaccinations based on religious and philosophical reasons. Should there be an outbreak of a disease and a child is not vaccinated, they would not be permitted to attend school for a period until it is deemed safe for them to return, thus causing a disruption in their education.

Another concern with this bill are the adults who work in a nursery school should also be exempt for religious or philosophical reasons. This could impact schools who have a pre-k age 3 or 4 program. Currently we do not mandate any vaccinations for staff, nor do we wish this to be mandated should this bill pass.

For these reasons, the MPA is opposed to LD 174 and 727.