

**MAINE
PRINCIPALS'
ASSOCIATION**



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*MPA is an Equal
Opportunity Organization*

TO: Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs
FROM: Maine Principals' Association Legislative Committee
RE: In Opposition of LD 11: An Act Regarding Temperature Standards for School Buildings
DATE: April 9, 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, and Athletic Directors of public and private schools in Maine.

The MPA Legislative Committee is in opposition of LD 11. While many newer school buildings across the state are equipped with modern climate control systems that maintain consistent minimum and maximum temperatures, the majority of Maine's schools do not have this infrastructure in place. If LD 11 were to pass, the cost to retrofit older school buildings with comprehensive climate control systems would be astronomical. These costs would ultimately fall on local school districts, placing a significant financial burden on communities that may already be struggling with limited resources.

We acknowledge that temperature extremes can occur during certain times of the school year, and that classrooms may occasionally be too warm or too cold. However, schools across the state work diligently to maintain environments that are as comfortable and conducive to learning as possible, even with limited resources. It is also important to note that for the vast majority of the school year, most school buildings remain within a reasonable and comfortable temperature range.

For these reasons, the MPA respectfully opposes LD 11.