

Caroline Daigle
Brunswick
LD 577

I am testifying in support of An Act to Maximize Federal Funding and Protect Maine's Universal School Meals Program. As the manager of school programs for Mid Coast Hunger Prevention Program, I see the importance of ensuring kids have good fuel to power their learning and of giving families more flexibility in their budget to spend money on rent, utilities, healthcare, and other expenses. School Meals for All has also had an extremely positive impact on the local agricultural landscape by building relationships with local farms and serving kids more local, nutritious food. This kind of thoughtful investment in our children both improves their health and educational outcomes, betters their experience of being at school, and helps foster the development of a generation that will benefit all of us.