

**MAINE
PRINCIPALS'
ASSOCIATION**



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TO: Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

FROM: Maine Principals' Association Legislative Committee

**RE: In Opposition of LD 919: An Act to Require Parental Permission
for Certain Surveys and Questionnaires Administered to Minors
in Schools**

DATE: April 15, 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 919. While parental involvement in a child's education is essential, this bill is unnecessary because existing laws and regulations already require parental consent for surveys and questionnaires administered to students in schools.

Under current policies, schools cannot require students to participate in surveys or questionnaires without obtaining written parental permission. Furthermore, student information is already protected under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), which strictly regulates how schools handle and disclose student data. These existing protections ensure that student privacy is maintained and that parents are fully informed before their child participates in any survey that collects personal information.

LD 919 adds an unnecessary layer of legislation that does not address any existing gap or problem. Instead, it creates additional administrative burdens for schools without providing any new protections for students or families.

For these reasons, we respectfully urge you to oppose LD 919.

Holly Blair
Maine Principals' Association
LD 919

Please note that this testimony is based on the language of the bill, not the presentation of the bill by the sponsor.