

**MAINE**

**PRINCIPALS'  
ASSOCIATION**



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*MPA is an Equal  
Opportunity Organization*

**TO: Committee on Transportation**  
**FROM: Maine Principals' Association Legislative Committee**  
**RE: Neither For Nor Against LD 312: An Act Regarding the  
Rates of Speed at Which School Buses Travel**  
**DATE: April 22, 2025**

Senator Nangle, Representative Crafts, and distinguished members of the Committee on Transportation. 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 neither for nor against LD 312. Student safety is of the utmost importance and the MPA will support any measure to keep students safe. We believe that allowing school buses to travel the speed limit would help to do so. Many times, people who are traveling behind a bus travelling at 45 mph are in a rush and are more likely to pass the bus when it is slowing down or even if it is stopped. Drivers are often pulling out in front of buses quickly to not get stuck behind them. This could cause a safety issue for students who are waiting to be picked up by the bus.

The MPA are not transportation experts. We are not aware of the reason that the speed limit had been capped at 45 mph and therefore increasing the speed a bus can travel could cause a safety concern for which we are unaware. Due to these unintended and unknowing consequences, we cannot fully support this bill.

For these reasons, the MPA is Neither For Nor Against LD 312.

*Please note that this testimony was submitted based off of the original bill and not additional amendments that may be presented.*