Clorinda Chunn Waldo ME LD 1543

I am a former classroom teacher in Maine who led many sustainability projects with my students. These projects and experiences were powerful and positive for students involved. It would have been helpful to have a network I could have gone to for support, training, and resources as I advanced sustainability in my school.

- •Stronger Education Outcomes Research shows that hands-on environmental learning enhances student achievement in core subjects, fosters critical thinking, and increases student engagement.
- •Community & Environmental Impact Maine schools serve as community hubs, and sustainability efforts can extend beyond the classroom, fostering broader local resilience and environmental stewardship.
- •Alignment with State Goals Establishing this network is a named strategy in Maine's Environmental Literacy Plan and state Climate Action Plan, and aligns with Maine's commitment to ensuring Wabanaki Studies is taught in all schools by sharing resources and teacher training to support the incorporation of traditional ecological knowledge and Wabanaki perspectives.

For all these reasons, I urge you to support LD 1543, An Act to Establish a Maine Green Schools Network.

Sincerely, Clorinda (Cloe) Chunn