

April 23, 2025

100 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

Testimony in Support of LD 1097 An Act to Provide De-escalation and Behavior Intervention Training for School Personnel

Dear Senator Rafferty, Representative Murphy and members of the Education Committee

My name is Jon McGovern, I am a self-advocate, and I live in Bangor. I am also an employee of Speaking Up For Us, Maine's Self-Advocacy Network. I am in support of LD# 1097 An Act to Provide De-escalation and Behavior Intervention Training for School Personnel. This is important because I don't want to go backwards, I want to move forwards. I don't think anyone should be restrained or someone walk behind them because it makes them feel unimportant. School personnel should have more tools to use to support students. These need to be the right tools. De-escalation and Behavior Intervention Training are Important tools for school personnel to have. All school staff could benefit from this type of training and it in turn would benefit the community.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I ask you to vote in support of LD 1097

Sincerely,

Jon McGovern
Bangor
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