

Heustis Whiteside  
UMF  
LD 1219

Senator Rafferty, Representative Murphy and other members of the Education and Cultural Affairs Committee,

My name is Heustis Whiteside and I work at UMF as a psychiatric nurse practitioner. I live in Farmington. I am writing today in support of LD 1219, An Act to Increase State Funding for the Campuses of the University of Maine System and to Raise the Minimum Hourly Wage for Employees of the System.

Increased funding is necessary to keep Maine's public universities innovative and competitive, as well as making them attractive institutions at which to study, work, and learn. Working with so many first-generation students, and all students who want to learn and are not afraid of hard work, Maine's public universities are a true gift to our residents, but they are also a responsibility that we must protect and live up to. Thank you for your consideration.