

To: Committee of Education and Cultural Affairs

Subject: Support for LD 1627 – An Act Regarding Workforce Development, Education Reform, and Talent Retention

Good afternoon, Senator Rafferty, Representative Murphy, and members of the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs:

I am writing this testimony as a concerned citizen, parent and veteran to express my utmost support for LD 1627 – An Act Regarding Workforce Development, Education Reform, and Talent Retention.

This bill addresses the challenge that many of us in our communities have seen firsthand: too many young adults are graduating from high school with uncertainty about their futures. Too many employers are also struggling to find the talent required to grow and contribute to local businesses and the economy.

LD 1627 offers a proactive and responsible approach. It gives students earlier exposure to career options and ensures that every graduate has at least one work-based learning experience before they leave high school. Whether students choose college, technical training, or a direct path into the workforce, this bill gives them more information and better preparation to make those decisions with confidence.

It also supports the businesses and organizations that power our local economies by offering incentives to help them invest in talent, support their workers, and contribute to stronger communities.

LD 1627 does not add to the state budget but ensures better use of what we already spend by focusing on real, positive outcomes.

This is the kind of legislation that benefits everyone — students, families, employers, and taxpayers. It connects education to opportunity in a meaningful and measurable way.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I respectfully urge you to support LD 1627 with a vote of OUGHT TO PASS.

Respectfully,  
Craig Caffrey  
Bowdoinham

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LD 1627

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