

Katie Coppens
Brunswick
LD 1543

Dear Chairman Rafferty & Education and Cultural Affairs Committee,

I have taught in Maine for 23 years and am a recipient of the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science and Mathematics (PAEMST). I write to you in support of LD 1543 "An Act to Establish the Green Schools Network". This legislation will help retrofit schools to deal with their aging infrastructure, which will improve both energy efficiency and transportation. Both of these efforts will save districts money, not to mention help us do our part to reach the state's climate goals in Maine Won't Wait.

I also applaud the career-focused aspect within the Green Schools Network plan to build climate resilience and support students with climate job readiness. The network approach of communication and collaboration between districts will also have far reaching positive impacts.

I urge you to view this as an investment in Maine's schools, students, and toward the statewide efforts happening through Maine Won't Wait.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Katie Coppens
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