

Karl Francis
MSAD#51
LD 1098

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

I am writing to provide testimony on LD 1098: An Act to Ensure Equal Access to a Full School Day for All Students. My name is Karl Francis and I am the Principal at Greely HS. I appreciate the opportunity to share my perspective on this important piece of legislation.

I oppose the proposed bill

The rationale for my perspective truly falls within the trust of the current regulation noted below.

The use of abbreviated school day is already highly regulated in Maine Unified Special Education Regulations (MUSER) to include:

- (a) Address how the child will meet the system of learning results (which may include a core of standards in English language arts and mathematics for kindergarten through grade 12 established in common with other states), and receive full access to the general curriculum and services on the IEP, as determined by the individual child's need;
- (b) Address how the child will participate in local and statewide assessments;
- (c) Develop a revised IEP with a re-entry plan for the child to return to a full-time school day within a reasonable period of time, no longer than 45 calendar days; and,
- (d) Delineate in the revised IEP with the re-entry plan the actions the SAU will take to assist the child to participate in a full day of school; and
- (e) Document in the Written Notice the basis for the determination of an abbreviated school day and how the determination is based on the individual needs of the child.

In conclusion, I urge the committee to reject the bill.

Thank you for your consideration,

Karl Francis