

Written Testimony in Support of LD 1705  
An Act Regarding Adult Education Funding & Oversight  
Submitted by: Aimee Morrison  
College & Career Success Coordinator (WCCC)  
Maine Jobs Recovery Plan (MJRP)  
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Dear House of Representatives,

I am writing in strong support of bill LD1705, which provides emergency funding to ensure the continued employment of the College & Career Success Coordinators (CCSC) in adult education programs and community colleges across our state.

As a College & Career Success Coordinator, I have seen firsthand the transformative impact these positions have on the lives of adult learners. These positions are vital in bridging the gap between adult education and meaningful employment or postsecondary success. These coordinators provide individualized guidance, help navigate complex college and financial aid systems, support job readiness, and connect students with training opportunities that align with local workforce needs.

In rural communities, one of the greatest barriers our learners face is reliable transportation. Many adult learners live far from testing centers or community colleges, making it extremely difficult to access essential services like HiSET testing, college advising, or workforce training. With the flexibility and dedication of our positions coupled with the collaboration of adult education programs, I can extend proctoring services for HiSET examination directly on campus. Students are no longer challenged with overcoming transportation barriers by having a more centralized location for HiSET tutoring and testing. The innovation solution dramatically improved the access and success rates for our rural learners in obtaining their high school equivalency diplomas.

Adult learners often face multiple barriers - such as childcare responsibilities, inconsistent work schedules, and limited digital literacy - that make the transition to college or career pathways more difficult. These coordinators offer tailored and consistent support that empowers students to stay on track and complete their educational and career goals.

If the WCCC CCSC position is not sustained through emergency funding, responsibility for HiSET services will shift back entirely to the adult education program. With only one remaining certified proctor in the county, it would be difficult to offer the same flexibility or accommodate the diverse scheduling needs of our learners. Limited staffing will mean fewer testing sessions, longer wait times, and reduced access for those juggling work and family responsibilities - ultimately putting students' progress on hold.

Without emergency funding, many of these positions are at risk. The loss would not only destabilize programs but would also jeopardize the progress of thousands of adult learners who

depend on these services. Investing in these college and career success coordinators is an investment in economic mobility, workforce development, and community resilience.

I urge you to vote in favor of this bill and help protect the vital support system that the College & Career Success Coordinators provide.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Aimee Morrison

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