

TESTIMONY NEITHER FOR NOR AGAINST

L.D. 1701

AN ACT TO SUPPORT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF LEARNING STANDARDS AND RESULTS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

April 30, 2025

Senator Rafferty, Representative Noonan Murphy, and members of the Joint Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, I am Steven Bailey, the Executive Director of the Maine School Management Association, testifying on behalf of the legislative committees of the Maine School Boards Association and the Maine School Superintendents Association neither for nor against L.D. 1701, An Act to Support the Implementation of Learning Standards and Results in Public Schools.

Our associations appreciate this bill's goal of assisting districts with the implementation of the Maine Learning Results. Our associations and others have repeatedly shared that any changes to the Learning Results must be accompanied by resources to assist districts and ensure these changes make their way into classrooms.

This amended version of L.D. 1701 appears to recognize those concerns, and would provide for a broader examination of the purpose of the Learning Results, their overall accessibility, and the integration of particular perspectives across content areas. These are worthwhile goals that will help the state to rethink elements of these standards while considering ways to assist districts in their implementation.

Many superintendents are also curriculum experts, and we would ask that superintendents also be represented on this workgroup, as they can share their experience in developing curriculum and implementing it in classrooms while balancing limited district resources.