

Diane Vernesoni
Topsham
LD 1853

I STRONGLY URGE you to vote OUGHT TO PASS on LD1853, An Act to Establish an Educational Tax Credit Program to Help Parents Pay for Nonpublic School Tuition and Fees. This bill expands the State's public education obligation beyond solely public schools to include the education of all eligible persons within a school administrative unit. It establishes a refundable tax credit program for parents or guardians of eligible students enrolled in nonpublic schools. The credit is equivalent to 70% of the cost of publicly funded education. The credit is delayed for those currently enrolled in nonpublic schools until the 2027-2028 school year. The bill establishes a companion tax credit in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 36, chapter 822. This is a great bill. It gives the parents a chance to get the education they deserve, especially Christian education. Our school today are devoting more time to DEI and gender affirming issue than they are Reading, Writing, and Arithmetic, or History or Working Skills. Our children are so far behind in their learning it is frightening. We need to stop the madness of gender-affirming and help the children be who they were born to be....PEOPLE! Teach them how to get a job and survive in a very competitive world. Teach to study and learn new things. Teach them to add and subtract. Teach them about their forefathers and the sacrifices made by the soldiers in all the wars. Sacrifices to give them a better life. History should be learned so that we don't repeat past mistakes and thrill in past successes. This is what should be but isn't being taught in our regular schools today. Therefore, I URGE YOU to vote OUGHT TO PASS on LD 1853 to give the parents a choice of a better education for their children. Thank you!