

Andrew Jones
Scarborough, Scarborough Alliance for Thoughtful Tech
LD 2052

Dear Members of the Education and Cultural Affairs Committee,

I respectfully urge you to pass LD 2052, “Resolve to Study the Use of Technology in Classrooms and Study Safeguards Related to Its Use.”

I am a parent of two children in Scarborough, Maine, and over the past several months, I have learned a great deal about the impacts of educational technology. While technology can offer benefits, it also presents real risks to students. Research and observation suggest that excessive screen use can harm attention, focus, and the depth and breadth of learning. Increasingly, artificial intelligence tools and gamified platforms are being incorporated into classrooms, often without clear understanding of their effects. These tools can unintentionally prioritize speed, novelty, and rewards over comprehension, critical thinking, and self-regulation.

I have personally requested detailed information from my school leadership about actual screen-time use by grade, subject, and type of activity. The only response I received was rough estimates, along with reassurances that I have “nothing to worry about.” This is not sufficient. Without real, concrete data, parents and policymakers cannot evaluate the effectiveness of educational technology or ensure that its use truly supports learning and well-being.

I am asking for your help to gather accurate, actionable information about how technology is being used in our classrooms and to identify appropriate safeguards. LD 2052 is a critical first step toward transparency, accountability, and evidence-based decisions that prioritize student learning and safety.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Andrew, Jones
Parent, Scarborough