

Sen. Rotundo, Rep. Gattine, and esteemed members of the Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee:

Good morning. I am writing to urge you to pass **LD 2212** to make a statewide cell phone ban in public schools possible. I am a Bath resident and the mother of a young child who attends our local public school.

I have spoken extensively with several neighbors and their teen children about the positive changes in RSU1 schools since they championed and pioneered this measure. The feedback has been overwhelmingly encouraging. I am relieved to know that when my son reaches those grades, he will be able to attend school in an environment protected from the anxiety, distraction, and social pressures that constant cellphone access can bring to young people.

I am also deeply troubled by the heartbreaking stories emerging from court cases in California, where families have lost children and are confronting the harms associated with addictive social media design. We have a responsibility to ensure that during school hours—when children are meant to learn, develop emotionally, and build healthy relationships—they are shielded from these risks as much as possible.

Please make this issue a priority and take decisive action to ensure a healthier learning environment for all Maine students by implementing a statewide cell phone ban in public schools.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Jimena Guzman

Bath