

**MAINE
PRINCIPALS'
ASSOCIATION**



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TO: Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

FROM: Maine Principals' Association Legislative Committee

RE: In Support of LD 2175: Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Chapter 115: The Credentialing of Education Personnel, a major substantive rule of the Department of Education and the State Board of Education.

DATE: February 24, 2026

Senator Rafferty, Representative Murphy, and distinguished members of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs. My name is Dr. Holly Blair, and I am the Executive Director of the Maine Principals' Association – Professional Division. The MPA represents more than 700 PreK-12 principals and assistant principals, CTE Directors and Assistant Directors, and Athletic Directors of public and private schools in Maine.

Chapter 115 has generated an extensive amount of testimony across many of its provisions. Educators, administrators, preparation programs, and professional associations invested significant time and expertise to raise concerns and offer recommendations during the rulemaking process. The volume and substance of that testimony reflect both the importance of credentialing policy and the practical impact these rules have on Maine's educators.

We appreciate that the State Board of Education carefully considered this feedback and ultimately agreed to the majority of the recommended changes presented to the Education and Cultural Affairs Committee on behalf of numerous educational associations, including the Maine Principals' Association. This collaborative process resulted in revisions that better balance rigor, flexibility, and the operational realities faced by schools and districts.

LD 2175 provides the Legislature with the appropriate opportunity to review and affirm this work. Accepting the resolve acknowledges the good-faith efforts of stakeholders and supports a credentialing framework that is clearer, more workable, and responsive to Maine's educator workforce needs.

For these reasons, the Maine Principals' Association respectfully urges the committee to vote ought to pass LD 2175.

Please note that this testimony was submitted based on the original version of the legislation.

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