



Jon Doty, RSU#34, President

Nicole Chan, Ellsworth School District, Past-President

Jennifer Nickerson, RSU #22, Treasurer

Krista Poulin MSAD#6, Secretary

Debra McIntyre, Executive Director

Testimony of Debra McIntyre, Executive Director, on behalf of the members of the Maine Curriculum Leaders Association, testifying in support of LD 2175 Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 115: The Credentialing of Education Personnel, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Education, State Board of Education

Senator Rafferty, Representative Murphy, and members of the Education and Cultural Affairs Committee, my name is Debra McIntyre, and I am the Executive Director of the Maine Curriculum Leaders Association. On behalf of the members of MCLA, I offer testimony in support of **LD 2175 Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 115: The Credentialing of Education Personnel, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Education, State Board of Education**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on the proposed revisions to Chapter 115 certification regulations.

On behalf of the **Maine Curriculum Leaders Association (MCLA)**, we appreciate the **Maine State Board of Education Certification and Higher Education Committee** for actively seeking input and collaborating with stakeholders throughout this review and revision process. This was truly a collaborative effort and we thank the committee for taking the time to work with a variety of stakeholders.

While the proposed revisions are not perfect, the work has incorporated many concerns that individuals and educational organizations raised. MCLA is supportive of the revisions—particularly the inclusion of a portfolio pathway for certification. This pathway option provides candidates with a meaningful opportunity to demonstrate competency through relevant, practice-based evidence while maintaining the rigor and high standards essential to the certification process.

We also believe that the recommended changes bring greater clarity to the field regarding both initial certification and the recertification process. Clear expectations and coherent pathways are critical to supporting educators at every stage of their professional journey.

Overall, we believe these recommendations will strengthen the certification system, expand access through relevant and rigorous pathways, and better support Maine's educators and schools. For these reasons MCLA is in support of the revisions to Chpt. 115. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration and continued collaboration.