

William Sugg
Palermo/RSU 12
LD 2226

My name is William Sugg. I live in Palermo and have served on the RSU 12 Board for 14 years.

I believe LD 2226 is the first step towards fixing Maine's outdated EPS funding formula. The bill updates the "Regional Adjustment" in the formula, making it reflect Maine's current cost of living and labor market realities.

LD 2226 adds fairness and equity into the school funding formula in that now two districts with identical needs can receive vastly different state subsidies just because of their property values. Those property values often don't reflect the actual wealth and income of the people who live there.

This is indeed the case in Palermo. We have Sheepscot Pond which has many expensive homes with summer residents. Our hard-working neighbors' properties and jobs are not reflected fairly in the total assessed value of the town when it comes to the EPS and determining the formula for education funding.

LD 2226 would incorporate a community's income into the formula, better reflecting the true needs of each Maine city and town.

Please vote to pass LD 2226.

Thank you,

William Sugg, Palermo