

Joel Chapman
Sumner
LD 2226

IN SUPPORT OF L.D. 2226 “An Act to Amend the Essential Programs and Services
School Funding Formula”

BEFORE THE JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND
CULTURAL AFFAIRS

DATE: March 10, 2026

Senator Rafferty, and Distinguished Members of the Joint Standing Committee on
Education and Cultural Affairs:

My name is Joel Chapman, and I have been a Selectman in the town of Sumner for
the last few years. Every year the taxes levied on the citizens of Sumner have gone up
by sickening proportions and the prevailing factor has been the cost of education,
which is dictated by State powers that the Town inhabitants have no voice in. Last
year, a record number of tax liens had to be issued due largely in part to our people
not having the funds to pay their taxes. Owning land and barns does not mean that the
agrarian communities of this state can bare the massive cost of all the programs our
schools currently offer.

I hope L. D. 2226 can at least help to even the playing field a bit.

Respectfully,
Joel Chapman
Selectman, Town of Sumner
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