



TOWN OF WATERBORO

24 Townhouse Road
East Waterboro, ME 04030

Testimony of the Town to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

*In Support of L.D. 2226: An Act to Amend the Essential Programs and Services
School Funding Formula*

Date: March 12, 2026

Honorable Senator Rafferty, Honorable Representative Murphy, and Distinguished
Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs,

Thank you for the opportunity to express our support of L.D. 2226. As Town Manager
and Town Planner for the Town of Waterboro, we care deeply about this community
and our school district, RSU 57.

The current EPS formula fails our school district and our community. Waterboro and
the other five communities in RSU 57 are home to many economically
disadvantaged families, and the current formula does not recognize this adequately.
As a result, students in districts like ours suffer from much lower per-pupil support
than do students in wealthier districts. Annual increases at the local level are a
hardship for our residents and not a viable solution to this issue. While property
values continue rising, our residents do not have more money in their pockets
relative to the increases in valuation. Updating the EPS formula to more accurately
reflect student and community needs will help responsibility be shared more fairly
across the State and prevent the exacerbation of economic inequities through the
school system.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Matt Bors,
Town Manager

and

Mikala Jordan,
Town Planner

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