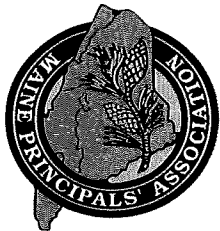


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*MPA is an Equal
Opportunity Organization*

TO: Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

FROM: Maine Principals' Association Legislative Committee

RE: Neither for Nor Against LD 436: An Act to Provide Career and Technical Education Students with Credit Toward High School Graduation for Work Completed in Career and Technical Education Centers and Regions

DATE: March 9, 2023

Senator Rafferty, Representative Brennan 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 800 PreK-12 principals, assistant principals, CTE directors and CTE assistant directors of public and private schools in Maine.

The MPA Legislative Committee is neither for nor against LD 436.

We support creating a mechanism for students to gain core credit for work completed in their CTE Centers or Regions. We are also in favor of giving students the opportunity to gain credit in their learning labs. We are open to the flexibility that a student could gain credit in lieu of recovery. Finally, we think that this could open more doors for some students.

While we are in support of the concept for this bill, we are unclear on how it will work. Different sending schools may have different expectations and contracts with CTE Centers and Regions for some classes. For example, two students in the same class from two different sending schools could earn a full credit to one student and .5 credit for the other. Ultimately we are also unclear as to whether or not this bill mandates this for all schools. Where Maine is a local control state, it is unclear as to how this is going to work in a manner that is fair for all students.

For these reasons, the MPA is Neither For Nor Against LD 436.