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## TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF

L.D. 753

### AN ACT TO ALLOW RETIRED TEACHERS AND EDUCATIONAL TECHNICIANS TO BE RECERTIFIED

Senator Rafferty, Representative Brennan and members of the Education and Cultural Affairs Committee. I am Eileen King, deputy executive director of Maine School Management Association, testifying on behalf of the legislative committees of the Maine School Boards Association and Maine School Superintendents Association, in support of L.D. 753.

Our organizations enthusiastically support this bill as it allows dedicated teachers and ed techs to return to the classroom after retirement even if their certification has lapsed. By removing the steps needed to regain certification through the traditional process, retired educators can easily return to the classroom. This is critical to those districts who have vacancies in the classroom that must be filled to meet the needs of our students.

We support that the certificate must be issued with the same grades and subject areas as the educator's last professional certificate. Title 5, Chapter 423 section 17859 for those educators who retire and return to work should be the guide for the employment of these individuals. We continue to support these requirements.