

## Maine Administrators of Career & Technical Education

1022 Waterville Rd, Waldo, ME 04915 mainecte@gmail.com

Executive Director David Keaton

President Julie Kenny

President Elect Kevin Stilphen Treasurer David Morse

Business Manager Joya Maynard Executive Committee Amy Boles Nicholas Gannon Paulette Bonneau Rob Callahan Ralph Conroy Robert Deetjen

## **TESTIMONY REGARDING**

L.D. 1942

An Act to Ensure Equity in Career and Technical Education Staffing Support Ratios Across Varied Regions of the State

Senator Rafferty, Representative Brennan and members of the Education and Cultural Affairs Committee. I am Dave Keaton, Executive Director of Maine Administrators of Career & Technical Education, testifying on behalf of the CTE Directors of the Maine Administrators of Career & Technical Education (MACTE). MACTE would like to address LD 1942 as we are in support of this bill.

This bill allows schools with fewer than 1,000 students to have one full-time instructor for career and technical education for every 8 students and schools with 1,000 or more students to have one full-time instructor for career and technical education for every 13 students or a ratio appropriate to the industry standard for the career field that is the program of the career and technical education.

CTE Directors are encouraged by this bill as it would enable smaller Maine CTEs the stability of maintaining full time CTE programs even if their enrollment numbers slips below 13:1 ratio. For smaller CTEs that have a catchment area of smaller high schools, a 13:1 for smaller CTEs was identified as a CTE barrier in the recent LD 313 report provided to this committee by the Maine Department of Education.

This ratio is very challenging for particular programs such as:

- 1. Certified Nursing Programs. Especially in the clinical setting
- 2. Commercial Driving Licensing programs
- 3. Forestry Programs

We would like to recommend that bill read, "fewer than 1,000 students, in the CTE Center/Region's catchment area" with the same for, "with 1,000 or more students in the CTE Center/Region's catchment area".

We look forward to discussing this matter with all of you in a future work session.

Yours in education,

## **Dave Keaton**

Dave Keaton, MACTE Executive Director