

Nicole Chan, Ellsworth Community School District, President
Jennifer Nickerson, MSAD 22, Treasurer
Joanne Dowd, Kittery School District, Secretary
Debra McIntyre, Executive Director

Testimony of Debra McIntyre, Executive Director, on behalf of the members of the Maine Curriculum Leaders Association, testifying neither for nor against LD 254 An Act to Update the Sex Education and Consent Curriculum

Senator Rafferty, Representative Brennan, and members of the Education and Cultural Affairs Committee, my name is Debra McIntyre, and I am the Executive Director of the Maine Curriculum Leaders Association. On behalf of the 97 public school districts across the state represented by our membership, MCLA, I am testifying neither for nor against LD 254 An Act to Update the Sex Education and Consent Curriculum.

The standards outlined in the Maine Learning Results guide the curriculum development process that is completed at the local level. The State of Maine does not have a state required curriculum and each school district develops their own. While we support material creation and professional development around these topics, we are confused with the term "update" referring to the sex education and consent curriculum. Affirmative consent is already included both in state statute (207-A) and in the Learning Results. While we support more resources for districts to choose from, there are many local and state agencies that currently work with school districts in developing and delivering age-appropriate curriculum, many which are listed as possible resources in the learning results documents.

For these reasons, MCLA is neither for nor against LD 254. - Thank you for your time.