

**MAINE
PRINCIPALS'
ASSOCIATION**



50 Industrial Drive
Augusta, Maine 04330
(207) 622-0217

Fax: (207) 622-1513
Email: mpa@mpa.cc

Websites:
<https://mpaprof.org>
<https://mpa.cc>

Kimberly Liscomb
Cony Middle/High
School
President

Stephen Bell
Dexter Regional High
School
President-elect

Michael R. Burnham
Executive Director
Interscholastic Division

Holly D. Blair
Executive Director
Professional Division

Michael G. Bisson
Assistant Director

*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 31: An Act Regarding School Enrollment for Military-connected Students
DATE: February 5 ,2025

Senator Rafferty, Representative Murphy, 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 700 PreK-12 Principals and Assistant Principals, CTE Directors and Assistant Directors, and Athletic Directors of public and private schools in Maine.

The MPA Legislative Committee is neither for nor against LD 31. As school administrators we want to make sure that any transfer is in the student's best interest. This bill will allow for the continuation of a student's placement in a particular school even if the student's family member is in the military and a move is necessary.

Upon reading the bill, there were many questions that arose that is causing us to not be in full support of the bill. Question such as: how does this differ from a regular superintendent's agreement that could be available for any student; is there a travel time or distance limit; and who is responsible for transportation? We would also encourage the language of "shall" to "may" on Section 2. D. Without answers to these questions, we cannot be in full support.

For these reasons, the MPA is Neither For Nor Against LD 31.