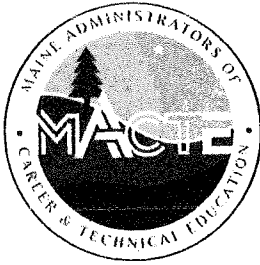


TESTIMONY REGARDING

L.D. 543

An Act to Add a Personal Finance Course to the State Graduation Requirements in High Schools



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Career and Technical
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*MACTE's mission is to
lead and advocate for
CTE in Maine.*

Senator Rafferty, Representative Murphy 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 543 as we are neither for or against this bill.

This bill adds a requirement that the elements of a firearm hunter safety course must be taught no later than grade 9 in all public and private schools in Maine. Successful completion of the course will result in the issuance to the student of a hunter safety certificate that satisfies the safety course requirement for obtaining an adult hunting license in Maine.

CTE Directors have concerns that LD 543 would hamper Maine CTEs from continuing to train our next generation of Maine skilled workforce:

- We consider this is a Local control issue
- If enacted, what Maine high school graduation requirement would be removed?
- We consider this effort to be offered as an elective or an after-school student offering
- Can we guarantee 350 hours of CTE instruction?
- Previously enacted LD 436 curriculum alignment work would have to be restarted.
- Would this bill need a fiscal note attached to it?

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

Yours in education,

Dave Keaton

Dave Keaton, MACTE Executive Director