



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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*Testimony of Rep. Abigail Griffin introducing*

**LD 642, "An Act to Provide Students in the University of Maine System Who Are Parents or Pregnant Individuals Priority Registration for Courses"**  
*Before the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs*

March 17, 2025

Good day Senator Rafferty and Representative Murphy, and distinguished members of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs.

My name is Abigail Griffin and I represent House District #34 which are the wonderful towns of Glenburn, Kenduskeag and Levant.

Today I am introducing LD 642, "An Act to Provide Students in the University of Maine System Who Are Parents or Pregnant Individuals Priority Registration for Courses".

We want to encourage every person who desires a higher education to have the opportunity. This bill is to ensure student parents have priority when registering for classes so they have an opportunity to engage in higher education. The pregnant student is covered under Title IX, but student parents deal with barriers such as childcare and work schedules. Therefore, we need to amend this bill hopefully at the work session. If a parent student has priority registration then they would have the opportunity to schedule their classes around childcare and work schedules.

It is also important that student parents be informed of this opportunity. The Maine University system should post student parents priority registration on their website. Posters and flyers would also be a means to inform parent students of this opportunity. These should be placed in appropriate places.

New Hampshire, California and Texas have similar bills.

Thank you for your time.

Abigail W. Griffin  
State Representative

District 34 Glenburn, Kenduskeag & Levant