

Horkan, Dylan

From: Sylena Lowry <sylena.lowry@icloud.com>
Sent: Monday, March 24, 2025 3:57 PM
To: Rafferty, Joe; Libby, Jim; Pierce, Teresa; Murphy, Kelly; Bagshaw, Barbara; Brennan, Michael; Carlow, Nathan; Crockett, Ed; Dodge, Jan; Haggan, Kimberly; Lyman, Sheila; Mitchell, Christina; Sargent, Holly
Cc: Cmte EDU
Subject: LD787 & LD1011

This message originates from outside the Maine Legislature.

Dear Members of the Education and Cultural Affairs Committee,

I am a registered Professional Engineer (ME & NC), business owner, lifelong resident of Maine, former high school math and physics teacher, long time member of the MSSM Foundation Board and Board of Directors, two-time MSSM parent, former president of the parents' association there, a frequent volunteer for STEM student activities, and citizen concerned with the quality of life for Maine residents. From the point of view from each of these roles, I wholeheartedly request ongoing and increased support for the Maine School of Science and Mathematics.

I am extremely proud of my home State for establishing the Maine School of Science and Mathematics, and I literally returned to Maine from North Carolina in 1996 because of it. We moved our business and home-schooling family back here, and two of our three children attended the MSSM. They are both engineers now, one of them completing the program at Boston University in 2-1/2 years solely because of the high level courses he was able to take at the MSSM. One works in Maine, the other in Massachusetts. **The school is a State Treasure, as I tell anyone who lets me.**

The best aspect of the MSSM, including in comparison to other similar magnet schools around the country, is that here, the students get the opportunity of a lifetime **ON THEIR OWN MERITS AND WILLINGNESS TO WORK HARD**. The student body is truly a cross-section of Mainers, regardless of economic advantages, popularity, or home town status. The culture there is healthy and growth-oriented, where students help each other and learn to fit in with academically oriented students seriously pursuing the best education available. The potential for the state of Maine is great in so many ways.

I sincerely appreciate that you have each taken on the roles you have on this committee, serving all of us here in Maine. I ask that you support the two bills LD787 and LD1011 for the good of our State.

Thank you,
Sylena

Sylena B Lowry, PE, MSCE
Lowry Water Technologies
39 Eisenhower Drive
Westbrook, ME 04092
800-434-9080 x302