

April 10, 2025

Good afternoon Senator Rafferty, Representative Murphy, and members of the Joint Standing Committee on Education,

My name is Shannon Coffin and I am the Community Partnerships Officer at Good Shepherd Food Bank. Please vote ought to pass on LD 577, An Act to Maximize Federal Funding and Protect Maine's Universal School Meals Program.

Good Shepherd Food Bank supports pantries in 133 schools across the state. I've provided this list on the bottom of my testimony for your information. School pantries provide food for children who would otherwise go without. They also support the teachers, school nurses, and other school staff and administration who spend their own money on snacks and meals for hungry kids.

School pantries are one piece of what we call the food security ecosystem, one piece of the puzzle to end hunger in Maine. School meals are another critical piece of the food security ecosystem. We've worked hard for years to provide school meals for all, and we cannot allow the current political challenges to reverse these efforts.

Community food pantries are another piece of the food security ecosystem. We support over 600 food pantries across the state including those at schools, at health care facilities, at shelters, and the more traditional model you might be familiar with. School meals relieve the demand on school pantries. School meals and school pantries shorten the line at community pantries. The reduction or elimination of one will lengthen the line at another.

Thank you for listening to my testimony today, and please vote in favor of LD 577.

In partnership,

Shannon Coffin Good Shepherd Food Bank Community Partnerships Officer



## School Pantries Supported by Good Shepherd Food Bank

Name	Town	County
AIOFEA School Pantry	Rockland	Androscoggin
Alternative Pathways Center (APC)	Biddeford	Androscoggin
Ashland District School	Ashland	Androscoggin
Athens Community School	Athens	Androscoggin
Augusta Food Bank School Pantry	Augusta	Androscoggin
BackPack - Bath Produce	Bath	Androscoggin
Bangor School Department (BGCB)	Bangor	Androscoggin
Bath UMC Backpack	West Bath	Androscoggin
Biddeford Intermediate School	Biddeford	Androscoggin
Biddeford Middle School	Biddeford	Androscoggin
Boys and Girls Club Bangor	Bangor	Androscoggin
Canaan Elementary	Skowhegan	Androscoggin
Carrabec Community School	North Anson	Androscoggin
Carrabec High School	North Anson	Androscoggin

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Casco Bay High School	Portland	Aroostook
Central Maine Community College	Auburn	Aroostook
Chelsea Elementary School	Augusta	Aroostook
Cobscook High School	Trescott TWP	Aroostook
Community Cares Backpack Program	Wales	Aroostook
Community Concepts (Primary)	South Paris	Aroostook
Community Concepts (Secondary)	South Paris	Aroostook
Cony School Pantry-Augusta	Augusta	Cumberland
Crooked River School	Naples	Cumberland
Deering High School	Portland	Cumberland
Dirigo High School	Dixfield	Cumberland
Downeast Community Partners- Machias	Ellsworth	Cumberland
Downeast Community Partners- Ellsworth	Ellsworth	Cumberland



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East End Children's Workshop	Portland	Cumberland
East End Community School	Portland	Cumberland
East Grand School	Danforth	Cumberland
East Range II	Topsfield	Cumberland
Eastern Maine Community College	Bangor	Cumberland
Edmunds Consolidated School	Edmunds TWP	Cumberland
Educare- Waterville	Waterville	Cumberland
Edward Little High School	Auburn	Cumberland
Ella P. Burr Elementary School	Lincoln	Cumberland
Fairfield School	Saco	Cumberland
Farwell Elementary School	Lewiston	Cumberland
Franklin School	Auburn	Cumberland
Fryeburg Academy	Fryeburg	Cumberland
Gardiner Schools/FFT School Pantry	Gardiner	Cumberland
George J. Mitchell School	Waterville	Cumberland
Gerald E. Talbot ES (Riverton Elm)	Portland	Cumberland

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Gray / New Gloucester School System	Gray	Cumberland
Guy E. Rowe Elementary	Norway	Franklin
Harrington Elementary School	Northeast Harbor	Franklin
Healthy Island Project School Pantry	Stonington	Hancock
Hermon High School	Hermon	Hancock
Hichborn Middle School	Howland	Hancock
Hope Baptist Manchester	Manchester	Hancock
Husson University	Bangor	Hancock
Indian Island School	Indian Island	Kennebec
Jameson Elementary School	Old Orchard Beach	Kennebec
Kaler Elementary School	South Portland	Kennebec
Katahdin Elementary School	Stacyville	Kennebec
Kennebec Valley Community College	Fairfield	Kennebec
Kingman Elementary	Kingman	Kennebec
Lawrence Jr Sr High School	Fairfield	Kennebec

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Lewiston Middle School	Lewiston	Kennebec
Limestone Community School	Limestone	Kennebec
Locker Project	South Portland	Kennebec
Locker Project - Rapid Distribution	South Portland	Knox
Loranger Memorial School	Old Orchard Beach	Lincoln
Lyman Moore Middle School	Portland	Lincoln
Lyseth Elementary School	Portland	Lincoln
Madison Jr. High	Madison	Lincoln
Mano en Mano Childcare	Milbridge	Oxford
Mattanawcook Junior High School	Lincoln	Oxford
Medomak Valley High School	Waldoboro	Oxford
Medomak Valley Middle School	Waldoboro	Oxford
Meroby Elementary School	Mexico	Oxford
Agnes Gray Elementary	West Paris	Oxford
Mid Coast Hunger School Pantry	Brunswick	Oxford
Midcoast Youth Center	Bath	Oxford

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Miles Lane School	Bucksport	Oxford
Millinocket School Department	Millinocket	Oxford
Milo Elementary School	Milo	Penobscot
Montello Elementary School	Lewiston	Penobscot
Moscow Elementary	Moscow	Penobscot
Mountain Valley High School	Rumford	Penobscot
Mountain Valley Middle School	Mexico	Penobscot
MSAD 30	Lee	Penobscot
Mt. View High School	Thorndike	Penobscot
Narraguagus High School	Northeast Harbor	Penobscot
Nokomis High School	Corinna	Penobscot
Northern Maine Community College	Presque Isle	Penobscot
Ocean Avenue School	Portland	Penobscot
Oxford Hills Middle School	Harrison	Penobscot
Park Ave Elementary School Pantry	Auburn	Penobscot
Penquis Valley Schools	Milo	Penobscot

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Portland High School	Portland	Penobscot
Presumpscot Elementary School	Portland	Penobscot
Promise Early Learning Center	Lewiston	Penobscot
Reiche School	Portland	Piscataquis
Ridge View Community School	Dexter	Piscataquis
RSU 16 / Elm Street School	Mechanic Falls	Piscataquis
RSU 71	Belfast	Piscataquis
RSU 9	Farmington	Sagadahoc
Rumford Elementary School	Rumford	Sagadahoc
Sanford School District	Sanford	Sagadahoc
Sanford School District 1	Sanford	Somerset
Searsport High School	Searsport	Somerset
SeDoMoCha Elementary School	Dover Foxcroft	Somerset
SeDoMoCha Middle School	Dover-Foxcroft	Somerset
Sherwood Heights Elementary	Auburn	Somerset
Skillin Elementary School	Portland	Somerset



Skowhegan Area Middle School	Skowhegan	Somerset
Small School	Portland	Somerset
Solon Elementary School	Solon	Somerset
Somerset Elementary School	Hartland	Somerset
Southern Aroostook Community School	Dyer Brook	Somerset
Southern Maine Community College	South Portland	Somerset
Spruce Mountain Primary School	Livermore	Waldo
Spurwink Early Learning Center	Biddeford	Waldo
Sumner School	Ellsworth	Waldo
TJ McMahon Elementary	Lewiston	Washington
UMA Bangor	Augusta	Washington
UMA Ellsworth	Ellsworth	Washington
University of Maine-Orono	Orono	Washington
University of Southern Maine	Portland	Washington
Upper Valley Jr./Sr. High School	Bingham	Washington
Van Buren - MSAD24	Van Buren	Washington



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Vassalboro Community School	Vassalboro	Washington
Walton Elementary School	Auburn	Washington
Washburn Elementary School Pantry	Auburn	Washington
Washington County Community College	Calais	Washington
Waterville Junior High School	Waterville	York
Westbrook High School	Westbrook	York
Westbrook Middle School	Westbrook	York
Whiting Village School	Whiting	York
Wiscasset Elementary School	Wiscasset	York
Wiscasset High School / St. Philips FP	Wiscasset	York
Wisdom High School	St. Agatha	York
Woodland High School	Baileyville	York
Hope House - Penobscot Community Health Care	Bangor	York