

**MACTE Testimony: HP 1463, LD 2175: Chapter 115 Certification
Education and Cultural Affairs Committee**

My name is Bill Tracy, and I am the Director at Hancock County Technical Center in Ellsworth. I also serve as the MACTE President.

Thank you to the Chairs: Senator Rafferty & Representative Murphy, and to the members of the Education and Cultural Affairs Committee for hearing our testimony today.

Representative Bagshaw, Representative Brennan, Representative Carlow, Representative Crockett, Representative Dodge, Representative Haggan, Senator Libby, Representative Lyman, Representative Mitchell, Senator Pierce, and Representative Sargent.

The Maine Administrators of Career and Technical Education (MACTE) would like to thank the DOE and the State Board of Education for listening to and strongly considering all the prior testimony over the last two years related to possible changes to Chapter 115. We strongly support the following proposed changes:

- Removal of the Literacy in CTE course as literacy is involved in all that we do.
- Allow a waiver of the CTE Intro/Boot Camp (Orientation) class for teachers with 1 year of experience.
- Remove the language "In CTE" from all of these courses.

These adjustments help us, as directors, to remove barriers and make more practical moves as we support new instructors, often career changers, to obtain certification to teach in our CTE Schools.

Hiring and retaining qualified instructors for CTE programs is very challenging in general, and certification plays a part in this challenge. The MACTE organization seeks to develop highly effective teachers for all our programs and has worked in partnership with the Department of Education and the State Board toward that goal. We have one additional area that we feel is vitally important for hiring and retaining high-quality instructors in our 27 CTE Schools across the state.

MACTE is in support of the portfolio pathway for CTE certification. This is in conjunction with the proposal by the Maine School Superintendents Association. The MACTE proposal is designed to meet the teaching components, as our applicants tend to have strong content area knowledge and experience. CTE teachers working under a conditional certification could meet portfolio requirements in place of some of the required courses, such as:

- **Classroom and Shop Management:** Instructors develop safety practices that meet OSHA and endorsement area specific industry standards (such as ASE for Automotive), including appropriate PPE use. The portfolio would include daily class expectations and

routines for the entire school year, leveled consequences for infractions, a student reflection rubric as well as formative assessments by the instructor.

- **Curriculum and Instruction:** The instructor will revise or create a curriculum for the CTE program based on industry and Maine DOE standards for the endorsement area in coordination with administrative staff. Unit lesson plans with learning targets and objectives would be built throughout the school year in coordination with the instructors' assigned mentor and submitted to administration for review. Samples of student work would be collected for each unit as part of the portfolio.
- **Assessment:** Scoring rubrics for all units/learning targets/objectives will be developed, including both formative and summative elements, based on the newly developed curriculum. Performance and content knowledge assessments would be developed with the mentor teacher and submitted to administration for approval prior to use. Each summative assessment will be followed by analysis and reflection by the instructor, which will also be submitted to their supervisor. A plan for assessing employability skills will also be developed and used throughout the course to provide students with feedback in those aspects of CTE.

Thank you for your time and consideration, as you take the final steps towards revising Chapter 115 to better meet the needs of our educators across the State.

Follow-Up Contacts:

Randy Crockett
Certification Committee Chair
r.crockett@msad17.org

Bill Tracy
MACTE President & HCTC Director
president@mainecte.org