



Maine Curriculum Leaders Association

*Championing Policies And Practices That Enhance Teaching And Learning*

*Shelly Mogul, Auburn, President*

*Heather Manchester, MSAD 17, President-Elect*

*Deb Taylor, RSU 12, Treasurer*

*Beth Clifford, Maine Indian Education, Secretary*

*Courtney Belolan, Executive Director*

**Testimony of Courtney Belolan, Executive Director, on behalf of the members of the Maine Curriculum Leaders Association, testifying in support of**

Senator Daughtry, Representative Brennan, members of the Education and Cultural Affairs Committee, I, Courtney Belolan, the Executive Director of the Maine Curriculum Leaders Association, offer testimony in support of LD 261 Resolve, Directing the Department of Education to Study Truancy Trends in the State and Develop Recommendations for increasing Student Attendance and Reducing Truancy.

Truancy is a matter of concern in schools and districts across the state. Truancy is a complex matter, tied to even more complex social issues. MCLA values the work of researching trends with the goal of offering a range of solutions. It is our hope that such a study takes into account both qualitative and quantitative data, and relies on current research to support the development of recommendations. We are happy to support this bill.