

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO

L.D. 414

AN ACT TO CREATE PARITY BETWEEN PRIVATE SCHOOLS AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS REGARDING CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION TUITION RATES

Senator Daughtry, Representative Brennan and members of the Education and Cultural Affairs Committee. I am Steven Bailey, executive director of Maine School Management Association, testifying on behalf of the legislative committees of the Maine School Boards Association and Maine School Superintendents Association in opposition to L.D. 414.

The current practice for students attending the state's so-called private academies who also attend public Career and Technical Education centers part of the week is to have one-third of their tuition go to the CTE.

This bill would allow the private academy to charge 100 percent tuition for their students who also attend CTE, even though they are only at the academy part of the time, and traditionally that is two-thirds of the school week. It does this by eliminating 20-A, §5809, which reads:

§5809. Students enrolled in career and technical educational programs

Schools receiving tuition students who are enrolled in regular school day career and technical educational programs at career and technical education centers, satellites or career and technical education regions, under [chapter 313](#), may charge a tuition rate up to 2/3 of the maximum tuition rate as computed under [section 5805](#) or 5806.

This proposed elimination of statute makes no sense to us.

We understand and appreciate that private schools have costs to cover, but so do CTEs. And those CTE costs will and should grow as we add appropriate programs to serve business and industries in need of workers today and support the development of new programs for the jobs of tomorrow.