

OXFORD HILLS TECHNICAL SCHOOL

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Paul Bickford
Director

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I am writing to voice my support for LD 144, An Act To Fund Capital Improvements to Career and Technical Education Centers and Regions To Bolster Maine's Future Workforce.

In my role as Director of Oxford Hills Technical School, Maine Vocational Region #11, the passage of LD 144 would allow my region to expand our footprint and offer a greater selection of Career and Technical Education programs. Our space has remained constant since construction of the Oxford Hills Comprehensive High School was completed and the school opened in the fall of 1998. Each space in the building is currently used for academic classrooms or technical programs. In order to bring in a new CTE program, our only option right now is to close one of our existing 19 career and technical education programs. Our current programming aligns with higher education opportunities in Maine as well as high wage, in demand jobs in Maine. LD 144 would provide us an opportunity to add usable space which will, in turn, allow us to consider adding programs which we currently do not offer, while maintaining our current offerings.

I see LD 144 as a productive investment supporting the infrastructure needed to bolster Maine's future workforce.

Thanks to the Committee for this opportunity to offer my support of LD 144.

Sincerely,

Paul Bickford
Director
Oxford Hills Technical School