

**MAINE  
PRINCIPALS'  
ASSOCIATION**



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**TO: Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs**  
**FROM: Maine Principals' Association Legislative Committee**  
**RE: In Support of LD 144: An Act to Fund Capital  
Improvements to Career and Technical Education  
Centers and Regions to Bolster Maine's Future  
Workforce**  
**DATE: March 17, 2021**

Senator Daughtry, Representative Brennan and distinguished members of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs. My name is Dr. Holly Couturier and I am the Executive Director of the Maine Principals' Association – Professional Division. We represent more than 800 PreK-12 principals and assistant principals of public and private schools in Maine.

The MPA recognizes the importance of Career and Technical Education Centers. As the needs of Maine's workforce continue to grow, an area where Maine schools can help is to foster a system where more students are able to access the CTE schools and therefore graduate students who are ready to enter the workforce in a potential trade area. Many CTE schools are in dire need for extensive improvement or replacement. CTE schools can get on the major capital construction list in the same way as any other school, but some CTE schools do not have a mechanism to get taxpayer support for a capital improvement project. Getting a bond project to pass for Regional CTE schools is difficult when dealing with several different sending districts. \$20 million dollars allotted for the capital improvements of these schools would dramatically assist not only in the schools but allow for more students to better meet the needs of Maine's workforce.

The MPA Legislative Committee urges the Committee to Ought To Pass on LD 144.