

Elizabeth Lamoreau
Maine Region 10 Technical High School

Senator Daughtry, Representative Brennan and members of the Education and Cultural Affairs Committee. I am Elizabeth Lamoreau, in twelfth grade, currently enrolled in the Pre Apprenticeship program at Region 10, submitting written testimony on behalf of the students from Region 10 Technical High School in Brunswick in support of LD 680: Resolve, To Reestablish the Task Force To Study the Creation of a Comprehensive Career and Technical Education System.

I support the bill proposed because I believe that combining academic and technical courses in the same building would be very unique and beneficial to a student. There would be no more scheduling conflicts, or confusion and stress of having to function into separate school buildings with two different sets of rules. Also by combining academic and technical courses into one building we could receive more than 650 hours of technical training in our program along with an additional 2,500 hours in apprenticeship opportunities which is incredibly beneficial to anyone entering the workforce or college after their high school careers because you are reducing college debt and gaining hours of experience. Once the student graduates from high school having this training will allow them to receive opportunities for higher paying jobs because they are a highly skilled worker. As a young adult entering the workforce full time you will have the opportunity to stay in Maine. We would be adding young people to the empty pipeline of skilled workers needed to replace the graying out of our workforce in the oldest state in the nation, and in doing so, we would be growing Maine's economy.

Thank you for taking the time out of your day to read this letter, I hope these reasons given will be considered in your decision. I think combining academic and technical courses will allow for so many opportunities for students to thrive as the next generation of our workforce.