



*Mission: "To make every child's potential a reality by engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children."*

The Maine Parent Teacher Association is the largest volunteer child advocacy organization in Maine. Our members include parents, educators, students, and others active in their schools and communities.

March 28, 2021

**Supporting L.D. 993  
An Act To Prevent the Spread of Infectious Disease in Schools**

To Senator Rafferty, Representative Brennan, and members of the Education and Cultural Affairs Committee:

Dealing with COVID-19, either as someone infected or exposed or as the caregiver of someone infected, is disruptive enough to life without adding the burden of lost pay or being forced to use one's sick leave. As teachers and school staff, we feel it is unfair to place the burden of this exceptional disease on us. As parents, we want the security of knowing the staff working with our children are able to look after themselves.

We hope you will support this bill. It is the compassionate and commonsense thing to do.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Virginia L. Mott", written in a cursive style.

Virginia L. Mott, Maine PTA Legislative Chair  
42 Damon Pasture Lane  
Lakeville, ME 04487; 207-738-2180; [vmott@almanacmtn.us](mailto:vmott@almanacmtn.us)

Parent Teacher Associations have a long, strong history of supporting children, families, and schools. PTA was founded in 1897; PTA began in Maine in 1916. PTA has played pivotal roles in children's health, nutrition, safety, justice, and, of course, education, and we continue to do so. Here in Maine we're in our second century as the state's largest all-volunteer child advocacy organization.