Paulette Bonneau Biddeford

Dear Members of the Education and Cultural Affairs Committee

I am writing in support of Sen. Woodsome bill, LD 313. LD 313 proposes a thoughtful analysis of the process to allow all students to have access to career and technical education. The proposal is asking to look at secondary CTE holistically with the goal of having a clear pathway for students reinforcing what we have already started with middle school CTE experiences. The analysis would address the current barriers, satellite programming, certification challenges and opportunities, funding and overall multiple career pathways while addressing the State's critical workforce shortage.

I am supporting this bill because every year, there are multiple bills that come before you focused on career and technical education and this bill is an opportunity for us as a State, to develop a strategic, viable, dynamic system of secondary career and technical education pathways followed by the development of a sustainable funding plan. The time is now and all citizens of Maine will benefit from the product this bill will create.

Thank you for your consideration.

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