Type of hearing: Public Hearing Committee: Education and Cultural Affairs Date: April 22nd Bill: LD 1389 EDU@legislature.maine.gov

Re: LD1389: An Act To Improve Maritime Education in Maine "Ought to Pass"

To: Senator Joseph Rafferty, co-chair, Representative Michael Brennan, co-chair, Members of the Joint Legislative Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

My husband Dave Hague and I first moved to the mid-coast in the mid-1980s because of the maritime life and orientation of Maine. Dave served as Harbormaster for the Town of Rockport, and also worked for many years at boatyards such as Rockport Marine and Lyman-Morse (he is now an Operating Room Nurse at PenBay Medical Center). We keep our boats in Camden Harbor (but live in Lincolnville) and roam up and down the coast. We also both have our recreational lobster licenses. I work remotely as a book designer.

We know that Maine needs an educated workforce grown from within. Now we are investing in the future of Maine's maritime education and workforce through support for Maine Ocean School.

LD1389 benefits Maine Ocean School by ending the sunset clause, so that the School can continue to grow and show its success. Its unique combination of practical training towards certification for able seaman opportunities upon graduation, and college preparatory academics is a valuable addition to Maine's public education landscape.

I urge the Committee to vote "ought to pass" on this bill.

erv truly yours

Faith and Dave Hague, RN Lincolnville, ME 04856