



April 22, 2021

Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

Maine State Legislature

100 State House Station

Augusta, ME 04333

Good afternoon Senator Rafferty, Representative Brennan, and Distinguished Members of the Committee.

My name is Larkin Kjellberg, and I'm a freshman from Sandwich, NH.

We first heard about the Maine Ocean School the year it opened, and always wished for me to go, so this year when the school opened up to virtual learning for people from out-of-state, we jumped on the opportunity. The school teaches what I'm interested in, and I'm always excited to learn and do the day's lessons, be it learning how to chart a course or writing a paper on the American Lobster Fisheries.

It is hard being fully virtual because the school is so far away, but the teachers are always willing to help, whether it's adapting assignments or having one-on-one meetings to help us get the best grade possible.

The teachers are amazing, pushing me to do my best in and out of the classroom and be active on committees. I am currently on the yearbook committee, prom committee, and the virtual representative on the student council.

Maine Ocean School has changed my life for the better by giving me opportunities, skills, and friends I will have for the rest of my life. I urge you to vote in favor of bill LD 1389 so that I can continue my high school education in the environment I love, and the school can continue to provide opportunities for other people who love the ocean as much as I do.

Thank you, Larkin Kjellberg