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I am writing to urge the Education and Cultural Affairs Committee to support LD 1329. Given both the short-term and long-term shortage of workers in the State of Maine, we should be striving to provide clear paths to full employment that allow individuals to fully utilize their existing skills and to develop new ones. Career counselling and assistance in navigating the job search process are important for many people, and are even more important for those who are new to the U.S. or for whom English is a second language. Enacting this bill will help the State to bridge the gap from unemployment (or underemployment) to jobs that allow folks to reach their full potentials. Given our aging workforce, enacting this bill seems to me to be a key component of enabling the next generation of Mainers to obtain stable, quality jobs. Thanks.