

**MAINE
PRINCIPALS'
ASSOCIATION**



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*MPA is an Equal
Opportunity Organization*

TO: Joint Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs
FROM: Maine Principals' Association Legislative Committee
**RE: In Opposition of LD 1426: An Act To Provide for the
Equitable Funding of Education Chosen by Maine
Families**
DATE: April 27, 2021

Senator Rafferty, Representative Brennan and distinguished members of the Joint Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs. My name is Dr. Holly Couturier and I am the Executive Director of the Maine Principals' Association – Professional Division. We represent more than 800 PreK-12 principals and assistant principals of public and private schools in Maine.

The MPA Legislative Committee unanimously opposes LD 1426. This bill would require towns to pay the same tuition for kids who do not attend public school to private schools, homeschools, and/or tutors. Private schools and homeschooling options are choices that families make for their child. Because this is a choice, the local towns and municipalities are not responsible for paying the families when they could choose to send their child to a public school system. The passing of this bill could cost the local communities a significant amount of money.

The MPA strongly urges the Committee to vote Ought Not To Pass on LD 1426.