Good morning Sponsors and Co-sponsors of LD 1343 and LD 1426, and Members of the Education and Cultural Affairs Committee,

Please remove homeschoolers from the language of both LD 1343, <u>An Act To Create</u> <u>Education Choices by Creating Education Savings Accounts for Maine Students</u> and LD 1426, <u>An Act To Provide for the Equitable Funding of Education Chosen by Maine Families</u>.

The success of privately funded home education has been proven again and again, and cannot be overstated. Private home educators are innovators in education! The overall success of private home education comes from thousands of parents making millions of tiny decisions (and some huge ones) motivated by their own children's well-being. Curriculum can be adapted for the student rather than the student adapting to a curriculum. Children can learn at their own pace without the stress of constant assessment. The joy of learning is allowed to take hold.

Funding private home education blurs the lines between private and public, destroys the innovative spirit of the option, will be a breeding ground for fraud, and is bound to introduce into the home the very problems that plague our public schools.

Thank you for your time, consideration and the work you do! We look forward to your reply and any questions you may have.

Respectfully,

Ed and Kathy Green of Hope