

Home School Legal Defense Association

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Senator Matthea Daughtry, Senate Chair Representative Michael Brennan, House Chair Education and Cultural Affairs Joint Committee

April 26, 2021

Re: Opposing HB 1343 and HB 1426

Dear Senator Daughtry and Representative Brennan:

I write on behalf of Home School Legal Defense Association to oppose HB 1343 and HB 1426. John F. Kennedy said:

"... we shall pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, oppose any foe, in order to assure the survival and the success of liberty."

When a family chooses to homeschool their children in Maine, they accept that their decision comes with a cost. The fact that under current law those families bear the full cost themselves both symbolizes their freedom and protects it.

One important reason that homeschooling is surviving, succeeding, and expanding is because Maine homeschool families pay their own price, bear their own burdens and meet their own hardships.

HB 1343 and HB 1426 would deprive the homeschool community of that distinction by transferring a portion of the burden to the tax-paying public. We therefore oppose HB 1343 and HB 1426 so long as homeschool families are intended beneficiaries of the bills.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott A. Woodfuff, Senior Counsel