

Jacob Magnuson  
Falmouth

Testimony of Jacob Magnuson In Support of LD 1679

Senator Rafferty, Representative Brennan and esteemed members of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs. My name is Jacob Magnuson. I am in the 5th grade at Falmouth Elementary School.

Today, I'm submitting testimony in support of LD 1679. I want to thank the bill sponsors for your commitment to addressing childhood hunger in Maine.

Has there ever been pizza or pumpkin bread served at school and you couldn't eat it because it cost too much? That happens to a lot of people.

I think lunches should be free because it's healthy, it's fresh, and everybody will be able to eat.

My first reason school meals should be free is they're healthy.

According to Frac.org, "research shows that receiving free or reduced-price school lunches reduces food insecurity, obesity rates, and poor health."

In addition at FES all of the school meals have fruit and veggies, and also follow "My plate".

My second reason school meals should be free is that they're fresh.

An example of that is at FES the fruits and veggies come from the greenhouse.

I recently did a survey to see if people would rather have a peanut butter and jelly sandwich or a hot pizza from the school, and 11 out of 14 people chose pizza. This supports my idea that school lunches are a good choice.

My final reason that school meals should be free is that it allows everybody to eat.

Some people don't eat lunch and breakfast because they can't afford it.

According to Desmionereregisrew.com, "considering hungry children cannot focus to learn, providing a meal is as critical as math class."

They are the only meals at school. If your stomach is not full during a test you will focus on hunger not your test.

I hope you agree with me that school lunch should be free. It allows everybody to eat, they're fresh, and they're healthy.

As you all know lunch and breakfast are very important meals.

So make school meals free!

Sincerely,

Grade 5 Jacob Magnuson FES