## MAINE

## PRINCIPALS'

## **ASSOCIATION**



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MPA is an Equal
Opportunity Organization

TO: Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

FROM: Maine Principals' Association Legislative Committee

RE: In Opposition of LD 1315: An Act to Require Instruction

in Schools on Substance Abuse Prevention and Administration of Naloxone Hydrochloride

DATE: April 11, 2023

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

The MPA Legislative Committee is in opposition of LD 1315. Throughout the state of Maine, there are different expectations of what is acceptable to be taught in health classes. There are some high schools where this is already being taught where other areas of the state where it is not. The discussion of trauma being inflicted on a student knowing how to save the life of a friend who may have overdosed is significant.

That being said, as with other curriculum bills, Maine is a local control state and it is up to the local school boards to determine what standards are necessary for students to demonstrate.

For this reason, we urge the Committee vote Ought Not to Pass.