

**MAINE
PRINCIPALS'
ASSOCIATION**



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*MPA is an Equal
Opportunity Organization*

TO: Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs
FROM: Maine Principals' Association Legislative Committee
RE: In Opposition of LD 1314: An Act to Establish a
Minimum Salary for Educational Specialists,
Educational Technicians and School Teaching
Professionals
DATE: April 20, 2023

Senator Rafferty, Representative Brennan and distinguished members of the 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. We represent more than 800 PreK-12 principals and assistant principals of public and private schools in Maine.

The MPA Legislative Committee opposes LD 1314. We support a higher wage for our educational technicians and other school teaching professionals. The concern with this bill is the 200% increase over minimum wage. Where minimum wage is \$12/hour, this equates to \$24/hour for these professionals. This could equate to over \$40,000/year. This is the same, if not more, as the minimum salary as a teacher.

Our other concern is the lack of financial support for veteran educators and administrators. Many have worked for several years and barely make what the minimum salary will be should this bill pass.

If the additional money for these increases not be taken from the general fund, nor the local municipalities, and an increase be given to all teachers and administrators, we can support this bill.

The MPA urges the Committee to vote Ought Not to Pass on LD 1314.