



Maine School Superintendents Association



TESTIMONY NEITHER FOR NOR AGAINST

OFFICERS—2022-23

L.D. 1526

AN ACT TO PROVIDE GRANTS TO SUPPORT READING PROFICIENCY PROGRAMMING IN SCHOOLS

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EILEEN E. KING
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Senator Rafferty, Representative Brennan and members of the Education and Cultural Affairs Committee. I am Eileen King, executive director of the Maine School Superintendents Association, testifying on behalf of the legislative committee of the Maine School Superintendents Association, neither for nor against L.D. 1526.

Reading has many benefits for students, from inspiring the imagination to improving academic abilities. When students embrace the importance of reading, they can reach their full potential. Reading is also a vital part of the brain's development. It requires more focus and uses more areas of the brain than passive activities like watching videos.

This bill asks that the department give special consideration to SAUs serving populations of students with identified reading proficiency gaps for economically disadvantaged student and racial and ethnic populations.

MSSA supports the improvement of reading proficiency for all Maine students and would like to see a broader dissemination of these funds across Maine schools.

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Leading for equity, excellence and opportunity for all Maine Students