

**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 254: An Act to Update the Sex
Education and Consent Curriculum**
DATE: January 9, 2024

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 254. The Committee supports the concept of the bill and agrees that sex education is an important part of the educational career for Maine students.

The MPA Legislative Committee is in opposition of this bill for two reasons. First, Maine is a local control state, and it is up to the local school boards to determine what and how sex education content will be delivered to their students.

The other reason they are opposed to LD 254 is the amount of money that is suggested to create content and provide additional support at the Department of Education. We would rather see this money provided directly to schools to strengthen the health education curriculum that best meets the needs the individual schools throughout Maine.

For this reason, we urge the Committee to vote Ought Not to Pass LD 254.