

Kelly Warner
Exeter, NH
LD 2182

Senator Rafferty, Representative Brennan and members of the Education and Cultural Affairs Committee, my name is Kelly Warner, I am a resident of Exeter, NH and I am an educator of chemistry at Noble High School in North Berwick, ME. My experience in education includes 23 years of teaching chemistry at Noble.

I am testifying today (February 8, 2024) in opposition to LD 2182, Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 132: Learning Results: Parameters for Essential Instruction, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Education.

My teaching partner and I worked hard when the Maine Learning Results were updated to include the Next Gen Science Standards to update our chemistry curriculum, without much outside help from the State of Maine. We spent many unpaid hours over the summer overhauling our curriculum.

I have attended national chemistry teacher conferences in recent years, and I have the sense that teachers in other states get much more support from their State Departments of Education with professional development regarding the proper approach to the implementation of state standards than Maine does.

I am concerned that there is a plan to update the Maine Science Standards before we have been properly supported in implementing the current standards, and in reading over the proposed changes, I do not understand how I would properly include them in what I teach.

Please consider refraining from this change, and instead consider how you can better support Maine teachers in the implementation of our current standards.