

**MAINE
PRINCIPALS'
ASSOCIATION**



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*MPA is an Equal
Opportunity Organization*

TO: Committee on Judiciary
FROM: Maine Principals' Association Legislative Committee
**RE: In Opposition of LD 492: RESOLUTION, Proposing an
Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Provide for
Parental Rights**
DATE: March 4, 2025

Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and distinguished members of the Committee on Judiciary. My name is Dr. Holly Blair, and I am the Executive Director of the Maine Principals' Association – Professional Division. The MPA represents more than 700 PreK-12 principals and assistant principals, CTE Directors and Assistant Directors, and Athletic Directors of public and private schools in Maine.

The MPA Legislative Committee is in opposition to LD 492. While this bill is slated for referendum should it pass, it raises significant concerns about the role of public education and the expertise of our schools in delivering quality instruction to all students.

Public schools are the experts in education. They are staffed with trained professionals—teachers, administrators, and curriculum specialists—who dedicate their careers to fostering student learning, development, and critical thinking. These professionals follow evidence-based practices and state-approved educational standards that ensure students receive a well-rounded and effective education. LD 492 threatens to undermine this system by granting absolute control over public education decisions to individual parents, rather than to those with the knowledge and experience to create an equitable and academically rigorous learning environment for all children.

While parental involvement is essential and should be encouraged, LD 492 risks fragmenting our education system, leading to inconsistency, inequity, and potential conflicts over what is taught in our classrooms. Public education serves a diverse student population, and it must remain grounded in research, best practices, and the needs of all students—not just the preferences of individual groups.

For these reasons, we urge you to reject LD 492 and to uphold the integrity of our public education system by allowing schools to continue their essential work in preparing students for the future.