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**Testimony of Rep. John Tuttle
Before the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing
Presenting LD 620, Resolve, To Develop a Plan for Teachers To Collect Social Security**

Senator Hickman, Representative Sylvester and members of the Labor and Housing Committee, my name is John Tuttle and I represent House District 18: part of the city of Sanford. I'm pleased to present **LD 620, Resolve, To Develop a Plan for Teachers To Collect Social Security.**

Having chaired this committee in the past for eight years, I wish I could have honored the Legislature's tradition by leaving a small gift for each of you. But maybe we can do that tomorrow when we are all together in person.

This resolve takes another crack at a difficult issue that is very important to me and has been with us for a long time. But I've put the resolve in because we need to do all we can for Maine's hard working teachers.

LD 620 directs the Maine Public Employees Retirement System (MPERS) to examine options and make recommendations for a plan to allow Maine teachers to contribute, accumulate credit and collect benefits under the United States Social Security Act in addition to collecting benefits under the Maine Public Employees Retirement System.

The bill has a reportback provision requiring MPERS to submit a report on its findings and recommendations, together with any proposed implementing legislation, to this committee. The resolve also authorizes you to submit a bill to the Legislature that implements that proposal.

Thank you for the chance to testify. I would be happy to answer any questions from the committee.