

**MAINE
PRINCIPALS'
ASSOCIATION**



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*MPA is an Equal
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TO: Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing
FROM: Maine Principals' Association Legislative Committee
RE: In Support of LD 70: An Act to Eliminate the Cap on Retirement Benefits for State Employees and Teacher to Which a Cost of living Adjustment is Made
DATE: February 14, 2023

Senator Tipping, Representative Roeder, 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 fully supports the passing of LD 70. Upon retirement, many are on a fixed income. When the price of living continues to increase, it will go above the cap of \$24,186.25. By increasing their entire retirement benefit by the cost-of-living expenses set by the Consumer Price Index, they will be able to live with less stress and worry about how to pay for their homes, food, medication, etc. These educators have dedicated their life to the benefit of educating the citizens of Maine and they deserve to have this cap eliminated.

The MPA strongly urges the Committee to vote unanimously Ought to Pass on LD 70.