

STEEL FABRICATORS OF NEW ENGLAND

130 East Randolph, Suite 2000, Chicago, IL 60601 | 603.766.7363 | sfne.org



February 27, 2024

ATTN: The Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government

Dear Senator Nagle, Representative Stover and esteemed members of the Joint Committee on State and Local Government.

The Steel Fabricators of New England (SFNE) is an association of structural steel and miscellaneous metal fabricators and allied companies that serve the building and bridge construction markets in New England, including five in the state of ME, and many more who employ residents of the state of ME. The mission of SFNE is to promote the use of its members' domestically fabricated structural steel and miscellaneous metals in buildings, bridges, and similar structures through education, legislative advocacy, and networking activities.

SFNE is submitting this letter in support of LD 1983, *"An Act to Establish the Maine Buy American and Build Maine Act"*.

SFNE advocates for legislation to reduce or eliminate awarding of publicly funded steel fabrication projects to foreign companies in the New England states. Our goal is requiring projects built with taxpayer funds to be awarded to U.S. manufacturers when buying steel, iron, and other materials for new construction and renovation. SFNE believes "Buy American" legislation supports local jobs and creates considerable economic activity for the New England economy. SFNE's Government Affairs committee was created to advance these legislative initiatives.

SFNE's Government Affairs Committee asks for your support of LD 1983. Laws such as these are critical to the future of our industry.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stephen Capone', is positioned below the 'Sincerely,' text. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Stephen Capone
President, Steel Fabricators of New England
President, Capone Iron Corporation