

CONCERNED
WOMEN *for* **AMERICA**
LEGISLATIVE ACTION COMMITTEE

Statement by
Penny Morrell, State Director
Concerned Women for America of Maine
For Concerned Women for America LAC

To Members of the Education and Cultural Affairs Committee

Regarding L.D. 70,
**An Act To Allow a Parent or Guardian of a Student Who Has Been Affected by COVID-19
To Keep the Student in the Student's Current Grade Level**

February 24, 2021

Sen. Daughtry, Rep. Brennan, and members of the Education and Cultural Services Committee, thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today. I'm Penny Morrell, State Director of Concerned Women for America of Maine speaking for Concerned Women for America LAC.

Concerned Women for America (CWA) is the largest public policy women's organization in the nation with hundreds of thousands of members across the country.

CWA of Maine supports LD 70, **An Act To Allow a Parent or Guardian of a Student Who Has Been Affected by COVID-19 To Keep the Student in the Student's Current Grade Level"**

CWA believes that parents have the supreme authority in the dictates of their child's education. Therefore, if a parent believes their child has fallen behind because of a lack of in-house education, and/or time out for sickness, or any other complication due to COVID-19, the parent must have the right to decide whether or not to hold the child in the same grade.

If it is believed by the parent that it is in the best interest of the student to remain in the same class for another year so as not to struggle by moving on to the next grade without the proper skills, the parent must have the right to dictate that prerogative.

We ask this committee to vote "ought to pass" on L.D. 70. Thank you.