

## STATE OF MAINE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR 1 STATE HOUSE STATION AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0001

8 July 2013

The 126<sup>th</sup> Legislature of the State of Maine State House Augusta, ME

Dear Honorable Members of the 126<sup>th</sup> Legislature:

Under the authority vested in me by Article IV, Part Third, Section 2 of the Constitution of the State of Maine, I am hereby vetoing LD 1573, "An Act To Extend the Authorization for the Maine Education Effectiveness Council."

This bill extends the life of a council that has already done great work. Its recommendations are before the Legislature now in LD 1542. There is no reason to extend the life of this council if the rules do not move forward – there is nothing to implement. The simple fact is the rules are being held hostage because some interest groups do not want objective standards. If we are not serious about increasing teacher effectiveness, then there is no need to have this council continue its work.

For these reasons, I return LD 1573 unsigned and vetoed. I strongly urge the Legislature to sustain it.

Sincerely,

Paul R. LePage

Governor