

**TESTIMONY OF RICHARD A. GOULD**  
**IN SUPPORT OF L.D. 1056**

**Senator Millett; Representative MacDonald and distinguished members of the Education and Cultural Affairs Committee.**

**My name is Dick Gould and I am Executive Director of Maine Small Schools Coalition. I am testifying on behalf of myself today. The first thing I want to say is that I am supportive of Charter schools, but I am not in favor of the way they are funded. I am also opposed to the process for establishing charter schools. Sending schools have very little say about the process and the funding of these schools.**

**One of the major reasons for charter schools is choice. Choice is good. Choice being good should also be applied to the citizens of the various communities involved in the sending of students to the charter schools.**

**From my understanding of financial support of charter schools, citizens of the sending communities have no input in the appropriation of their property taxes. I believe this can be construed to be a violation of our right to have representation for the raising of taxes.**

**While L.D. 1056 does give voters some degree of choice in deciding to join a Charter school, it still leaves the funding process flawed. Voters still have little input in the charter school budget. We are told what we will raise in property taxes without oversight on how our taxes are used. Oh yes, there is charter school oversight, but not by those of us who pay part of the cost of the schools.**

**I have attached a five year budget comparison for the Town of Greenville. As you can see we receive very little funding from the State. So we really get hit in this process.**

**I also want to point out my confusion by lines 8-14 on page 2 of the L.D. I can read this section two ways and maybe it is me, but I would like to see it clarified,.**

**Thanks for reading and listening to my testimony.**

## 6 Year Greenville School Department Budget Comparison

	2013 Proposed Budget	2012 Budget	2011 Budget	2010 Budget	2009 Budget	2008 Budget
<b><u>Local Revenues</u></b>						
1000-0000-0000-412110-000 Required Local Allocation	(\$1,639,482.28)	(\$1,750,338.89)	(\$1,813,207.35)	(\$1,851,433.32)	(\$1,633,395.67)	(1,693,547.31)
1000-0000-0000-412130-000 Additional Local Allocation	(\$827,490.45)	(\$550,403.32)	(\$493,625.86)	(\$426,924.79)	(\$678,929.03)	(436,597.60)
1000-0000-0000-413220-000 Tuition - Towns Elementary	(\$90,561.00)	(\$115,461.00)	(\$122,469.00)	(\$94,697.00)	(\$94,054.00)	(129,981.38)
1000-0000-0000-413240-000 Tuition - Towns Secondary	(\$75,522.00)	(\$75,227.00)	(\$76,064.00)	(\$53,885.00)	(\$50,647.00)	(56,274.28)
1000-0000-0000-413250-000 Tuition - Spec Ed Elem Towns	(\$2,000.00)	(\$3,000.00)	(\$5,000.00)	(\$500.00)	(\$500.00)	(6,276.25)
1000-0000-0000-413910-000 EUT Tuition Elementary	(\$137,997.00)	(\$138,553.00)	(\$113,722.00)	(\$101,981.00)	(\$119,705.00)	(148,671.62)
1000-0000-0000-413930-000 EUT Tuition Secondary	(\$58,739.00)	(\$74,813.00)	(\$204,782.00)	(\$171,930.00)	(\$101,294.00)	(209,045.24)
1000-0000-0000-413940-000 EUT Tuition Spec Ed Elementary	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	(1,631.25)
1000-0000-0000-413960-000 EUT Tuition Spec Ed Secondary	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$700.00)	0.00
1000-0000-0000-419910-000 Miscellaneous, Sales, & Refunds fr Exp.	\$0.00	(\$20,000.00)	(\$3,999.00)	(\$3,699.00)	\$0.00	(7,108.00)
1000-0000-0000-419911-000 Reimbursement IRS Bond	(\$53,798.69)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	(750.00)
1000-0000-0000-419920-000 Miscellaneous Receipts (Stabilization)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$8,210.38)	(\$1,000.00)	(2,151.73)
1000-0000-0000-445850-000 MaineCare/Medicaid offset Local Revenue	(\$2,000.00)	(\$1,000.00)	(\$9,000.00)	(\$9,000.00)	(\$59,000.00)	(9,000.00)
1000-0000-0000-450000-000 Fund Balance Forward	(\$248,000.00)	(\$502,550.00)	(\$415,600.00)	(\$600,000.00)	(\$500,000.00)	(522,228.30)
1000-0000-0000-452030-000 Fund Trans fr Spec Rev Funds	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$10,500.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>Subtotal Local Revenues</b>	<b>(\$3,135,590.42)</b>	<b>(\$3,231,346.21)</b>	<b>(\$3,257,469.21)</b>	<b>(\$3,332,760.49)</b>	<b>(\$3,239,224.70)</b>	<b>(3,223,262.96)</b>
<b>STATE REVENUES</b>						
1000-0000-0000-431110-000 State Subsidy Allocation	(\$205,517.83)	(\$79,938.79)	(\$61,906.38)	(\$73,895.82)	(\$125,901.86)	(360,379.49)
1000-0000-0000-431400-000 Facility Assessment Reimbursement	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	(1,900.00)
<b>Subtotal State Revenue</b>	<b>(\$205,517.83)</b>	<b>(\$79,938.79)</b>	<b>(\$61,906.38)</b>	<b>(\$73,895.82)</b>	<b>(\$125,901.86)</b>	<b>(362,279.49)</b>
<b>Grand Total - Greenville Budgets</b>	<b>(\$3,341,108.25)</b>	<b>(\$3,311,285.00)</b>	<b>(\$3,319,375.59)</b>	<b>(\$3,406,656.31)</b>	<b>(\$3,365,126.56)</b>	<b>(3,585,542.45)</b>