Full Plates Full Potential

Full Plates works to remove logistical and social barriers by providing technical and financial assistance to schools and communities across the state to help feed kids now, while advocating for systemic changes necessary to ensure that all Maine children have consistent access to nutritious meals. Our strategy is to maximize access to USDA Child Nutrition Programs - commonly known as school lunch, school breakfast, afterschool meals, and summer meals - which promise free meals to every child who needs them.

SCHOOLS LACK CRITICAL KITCHEN EQUIPMENT

- Many schools lack critical kitchen equipment to provide nutritious meals to meet the needs of their students.
- 1 in 6 Maine kids experience food insecurity.
- School meals are the most reliable and nutritious source of nutrition for students.
- In a recent grant round, Full Plates received over $140,000 in requests from just 6 schools to purchase large pieces of kitchen and cafeteria equipment. The need is very high for equipment funding.

ABOUT THE BILL

This bill would establish a fund to support purchases of school kitchen and cafeteria equipment needed to provide nutritious meals to Maine students, as well as funding to support medically necessary dietary restrictions.

“We are currently operating with an early 1970s Blodgett Convection Oven. Not only is the equipment far outdated, but safety features are no longer working.”

- Paul R. Kachinsky, Food Service Director
  Forest Hills Consolidated School, Jackman, ME

SUPPORT LD 1183

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A SCHOOL MEAL EQUIPMENT AND PROGRAM IMPROVEMENT FUND

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