



**TOWN OF FALMOUTH
RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO LD 300**

WHEREAS, the property taxpayers of Falmouth are obligated to fund education for their K-12 students under the laws of the State of Maine; and

WHEREAS, more than 70 percent of Falmouth property taxes are spent to support education in the Falmouth School District; and

WHEREAS, the largest line item expense after salaries in the school district's budget is for the cost of health care insurance for teachers, administrators and support staff; and

WHEREAS, competition most often produces lower prices for goods and services and improves understanding of the value of such goods and services; and

WHEREAS, the 125th Maine Legislature passed LD 1326 An Act To Allow School Administrative Units To Seek Less Expensive Health Insurance Alternatives and the bill was signed into law by the governor to enable the release of health insurance loss data to individual school districts for the purpose of understanding and soliciting competitive proposals for health insurance; and

WHEREAS, the new law, having been in effect for less than one year, breaks a decades-long virtual monopoly by the Maine Education Association Benefits Trust over local health insurance costs by concealing the loss data for individual school districts; and

WHEREAS, the United States Federal Court in Maine and the United States Federal Court of Appeals in Boston both have rejected arguments by the Maine Education Association Benefits Trust that attempted to block implementation of this insurance reform

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF FALMOUTH, that the Town Council hereby urges the 126th Legislature to reject LD 300, or any other legislation that restricts access to local loss data and designates the Town Manager to communicate the Town Council's opposition to this bill's sponsors, other legislators, the Joint Standing Committee on Insurance and Financial Services and other municipal officials.

Approved this 8th day of April 2013.

Attest: _____
Town Clerk

Date: _____