

# Why Invest in Maine's Public Universities? Our Economy Depends on It.

## The University of Maine System is on the right track:

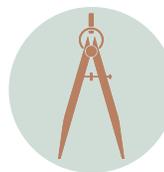
- **\$82 million** in annual savings through reforms and right-sizing
- **36% increase** in out-of-state enrollments in the last five years
- **\$80+ million** in investments already this fiscal year to advance affordability through early college, financial aid and adult degree completion scholarships

**However, the current condition and capacity of our facilities is costing us students, which Maine simply cannot afford. LD 836 will:**



### Produce More of the Skilled Workers Maine Needs

Maine employers say University of Maine System graduates are their top talent — they just need more of them. This investment increases our capacity and enrollment to directly support state workforce needs in:



Engineering



Nursing



Computer Sciences



### Reverse Demographic Declines and Grow Our Future Workforce

Campus appearance is among the top 5 factors influencing college choice. This investment modernizes our facilities so we can keep Maine kids here and compete for out-of-state students — *who pay more and often stay and work in Maine.*



### Enhance the University of Maine System's Fiscal Stability

One University reforms and right-sizing have improved financial stability. This investment will further reduce repair and operating costs, decrease our facilities' footprint and increase tuition revenue.



Nearly **1/2** of the System's buildings haven't had a major upgrade in over **50** years.

## THE \$75 MILLION BOND PACKAGE WILL:

- Add capacity for STEM education, including computer science & cybersecurity
- Expand nursing simulators & allied health training labs
- Improve spaces on all campuses that support student success, recruitment & retention, career development & job placement
- Bring jobs and new investments to our local communities



**All for less than the State now spends to construct a new high school.**

**Our universities and those who depend on them — students, employers, and communities — can't wait.**



Just like roads and bridges, our campuses are critical public infrastructure, essential to Maine's economic prosperity. This investment in University workforce development infrastructure must be a top priority *now* for Maine's legislators.

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