



125th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1553

LR 869(18)

An Act To Create a Public Charter School Program in Maine

**Fiscal Note for Bill as Engrossed with:
C "A" (S-301)
H "E" (H-637) to C "A" (S-301)
Committee: Education and Cultural Affairs**

Fiscal Note

Potential current biennium revenue increase - Federal Expenditures Fund

	FY 2011-12	FY 2012-13	Projections FY 2013-14	Projections FY 2014-15
Appropriations/Allocations				
Federal Expenditures Fund	\$0	\$500	\$500	\$500

Fiscal Detail and Notes

This bill establishes a process which authorizes the establishment of charter schools in the State and provides for a 10-year transition period in which only 10 public charter schools may be approved by authorizers other than local school boards. The requirement that all except up to 1% of state and local operating funds follow each student to the public charter school the student attends may result in a redistribution of state and local per-pupil allocation. The impact to individual school units can not be determined at this time. The additional cost to the Department of Education associated with implementing this legislation can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.

This bill includes Federal Expenditures Fund allocations of \$500 per year beginning in fiscal year 2012-13 to the Charter School program within the Department of Education to establish a base allocation for any federal grants that may be received by the department for the charter school program. The amount of grants that may be received by the State can not be determined at this time.

Additional costs to the Maine State Retirement System associated with conducting the required review of retirement plans for participating local districts can be absorbed within the system's operating budget.

Additional costs to the Maine Labor Relations Board associated with this legislation can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.