



# 128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1285

LR 1401(01)

## An Act To Tax Political Expenditures Made Immediately before an Election

### Preliminary Fiscal Impact Statement for Original Bill

Sponsor: Sen. Saviello of Franklin

Committee: Taxation

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

### Preliminary Fiscal Impact Statement

	FY 2017-18	FY 2018-19	Projections FY 2019-20	Projections FY 2020-21
<b>Net Cost (Savings)</b>				
General Fund	\$100,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Appropriations/Allocations</b>				
General Fund	\$100,000	\$0	\$0	\$0

#### Fiscal Detail and Notes

The Department of Administrative and Financial Services will require a one-time General Fund appropriation of \$100,000 in fiscal year 2017-18 for programming costs to establish a new tax on political expenditures.

The bill imposes a tax on a person making a political expenditure during a taxable period at the rate of 50% of the value of the political expenditure. A taxable period is defined as the interval starting the 14th day before an election or referendum and ending the day of the election or referendum. As the amount of revenue collected from this tax could vary widely from one election or referendum to another depending on the ballot measures at the time, no estimate of revenue is made at this time and no estimate is made regarding the length of time that would pass before the initial appropriation of \$100,000 was reimbursed to the General Fund.