



129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 114

LR 189(02)

An Act To Establish Open Primaries for Certain Federal and State Offices

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment " "

Committee: Veterans and Legal Affairs

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

	FY 2019-20	FY 2020-21	Projections FY 2021-22	Projections FY 2022-23
Net Cost (Savings)				
General Fund	\$250,000	\$0	\$250,000	\$0
Appropriations/Allocations				
General Fund	\$250,000	\$0	\$250,000	\$0

Fiscal Detail and Notes

The bill provides for open primary elections for certain state and federal offices. The bill includes a General Fund appropriation of \$250,000 to the Department of Secretary of State in fiscal year 2019-20 for additional ballot printing and postage costs.

The bill also extends the end of the qualifying period for certification of Maine Clean Election Act candidates from April 1 to April 20th. In non-gubernatorial election years this date change will have no fiscal impact on the Commission for Governmental Ethics and Election Practices (CGEEP). However, the CGEEP has indicated that in gubernatorial election years additional temporary staffing may be required to accommodate the additional workload of concurrently certifying gubernatorial and legislative candidates. The CGEEP has indicated that the Maine Clean Election Fund is forecasted to have sufficient resources to fund the cost of the temporary staff.