



129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 151

LR 628(02)

An Act To Align State Law with Current Practice Regarding Required School Attendance

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment " "

Committee: Education and Cultural Affairs

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Undetermined current biennium cost increase - General Fund

Fiscal Detail and Notes

Changing the age at which children are required to begin attending school from 7 years of age to 6 years of age may result in increased costs to local school administrative units (SAU's) beginning in the 2019-2020 school year due to the potential for an increase in enrollment. The impact to individual local SAU's can not be determined and will depend on the number of 6 year-olds that enroll in school as a result of this legislation versus the number that would have enrolled absent this bill. School administrative units will begin receiving state subsidy for these students in the year following their enrollment in school based on the state contribution percentage for that year. If the total state funding is not increased to cover the additional cost, existing subsidy will be redistributed, with some SAU's receiving more funding than they would have received if this requirement had not been in place and some SAU's receiving less.

Additional costs to the Department of Education associated with the rulemaking process can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.