



129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1355

LR 1445(01)

An Act To Expand the 1998 Special Retirement Plan To Include Civilian Employees Who Work for the Department of Public Safety Crime Lab and Computer Crimes Unit

Preliminary Fiscal Impact Statement for Original Bill

Sponsor: Sen. Diamond of Cumberland

Committee: Labor and Housing

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Preliminary Fiscal Impact Statement

	FY 2019-20	FY 2020-21	Projections FY 2021-22	Projections FY 2022-23
Net Cost (Savings)				
General Fund	\$0	\$65,683	\$67,982	\$70,361
Highway Fund	\$0	\$10,262	\$10,621	\$10,993
Appropriations/Allocations				
General Fund	\$0	\$65,683	\$67,982	\$70,361
Highway Fund	\$0	\$10,262	\$10,621	\$10,993
Federal Expenditures Fund	\$0	\$5,306	\$5,491	\$5,684
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$0	\$950	\$983	\$1,018

Fiscal Detail and Notes

Allowing civilian employees employed in the Maine State Police Crime Laboratory or computer crimes unit within the Department of Public Safety on or after July 1, 2020 to participate in the 1998 Special Plan of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System will increase both the normal cost and unfunded actuarial liability components of the employer retirement rate, resulting in increased employer contributions to the Maine Public Employees Retirement System on behalf of civilian employees beginning in fiscal year 2020-21.

This legislation includes a transition provision for those eligible civilian employees hired by the Department of Public Safety prior to July 1, 2020 which allows these employees to elect to participate in the 1998 Special Plan within 180 days of the effective date of this Act, assumed to be on or around December 31, 2019. This preliminary fiscal impact statement assumes all eligible civilian employees will elect to participate in the 1998 Special Plan as soon as the option becomes available. Given that assumption, the State Police program will require a General Fund appropriation of \$49,077, a Highway Fund allocation of \$10,262, a Federal Expenditures Fund allocation of \$5,306 and an Other Special Revenue Funds allocation of \$950 in fiscal year 2020-21 for the cost associated with moving the positions to the 1998 Special Plan. Additionally, the Computer Crimes program will require a General Fund appropriation of \$16,606 in fiscal year 2020-21.

If any of the eligible civilian employees hired by the Department of Public Safety prior to July 1, 2020 who choose to remain in the State Regular Plan eventually retire or otherwise vacate their positions, any newly hired employees will be placed in the 1998 Special Plan. The additional cost to the department to fill these positions at the higher employer contribution rate is estimated to be between \$2,000 and \$3,000 per position annually. When this additional cost will be incurred and which fund will be impacted cannot be determined at this time.