



131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1777

LR 963(02)

An Act to Create Economic Opportunity for Wabanaki Nations Through Internet Gaming

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment " "

Committee: Veterans and Legal Affairs

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

	FY 2023-24	FY 2024-25	Projections FY 2025-26	Projections FY 2026-27
Net Cost (Savings)				
General Fund	\$0	\$232,062	\$260,542	\$289,467
Appropriations/Allocations				
General Fund	\$0	\$673,937	\$701,167	\$730,092
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$0	\$85,000	\$3,925,000	\$4,725,000
Revenue				
General Fund	\$0	\$441,875	\$440,625	\$440,625
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$0	\$0	\$3,840,000	\$4,640,000

Fiscal Detail and Notes

This bill authorizes the Gambling Control Unit (GCU) within the Department of Public Safety to regulate internet-based gaming (igaming) and directs that 16% of the adjusted gross internet gaming receipts be credited to the GCU for distribution as follows:

Gambling Control Unit Admin Expenses (OSR)	2%
Gambling Addiction Prevention and Treatment Fund	3%
E-9-1-1 Fund	3%
Opioid Use Disorder Prevention and Treatment Fund	3%
Emergency Housing Relief Fund	2%
Maine Veterans' Homes Stabilization Fund	3%

The 16% of the igaming revenue (the State's share) in fiscal year 2025-26 is anticipated to generate \$3,840,000 in revenue which will be distributed to various Other Special Revenue Funds accounts listed above. Corresponding allocations will be required beginning in fiscal year 2025-26 to allow for expenditure of the funds.

Provisions in this bill limit igaming licenses to each federally recognized Indian nation, tribe or band in the State. Licenses and application fees are estimated to generate \$441,875 in General Fund revenue beginning in fiscal year 2024-25. This assumes 4 tribe licenses, 20 supplier licenses, 4 management services entity licenses, 25 1-year occupational licenses and 25 3-year occupational licenses are issued.

The bill includes ongoing General Fund appropriations of \$673,937 to the GCU beginning in fiscal year 2024-25 for 2 Criminal Intelligence Analyst positions, one Public Service Coordinator position, one Public Safety Inspector I position and 2 Auditor II positions. Other Special Revenue Funds allocations of \$85,000 for associated All Other costs for the positions are included.

Any additional costs incurred, or additional revenue generated, by the Department of Public Safety from preparing additional fingerprint background checks are expected to be minor and can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.