



125th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1810

LR 2684(03)

An Act To Provide Ongoing Review of the Effectiveness and Fairness of Land Use Laws and Rules

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment " "

Committee: Judiciary

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Legislative Cost/Study

Potential current biennium cost increase - General Fund

Potential current biennium cost increase - Highway Fund

	FY 2011-12	FY 2012-13	Projections FY 2013-14	Projections FY 2014-15
Net Cost (Savings)				
General Fund	\$0	\$103,972	\$541,739	\$531,807
Appropriations/Allocations				
General Fund	\$0	\$103,972	\$541,739	\$531,807

Legislative Cost/Study

The estimated cost for 2 interim meetings of this committee is projected to be \$5,000 annually beginning in fiscal year 2012-13. If additional meetings are held the estimated cost for each additional meeting is \$2,500. The Legislature's proposed budget includes \$10,000 in fiscal year 2012-13 for legislative studies. Whether this amount is sufficient to fund all studies will depend on the number of studies authorized by the Legislative Council and the Legislature.

This bill includes a General Fund appropriation of \$20,693 in fiscal year 2012-13 to increase a part-time Legislative Analyst position to full-time effective January 1, 2013 in order to provide the required staffing to the new legislative committee. The General Fund costs for the position change increase to \$43,474 in fiscal year 2013-14 and \$45,632 in fiscal year 2014-15.

Fiscal Detail and Notes

This legislation creates a process for landowner relief related to regulatory takings. Depending upon the number or extent of any lawsuits filed, both General Fund and Highway Fund costs could be increased as a result of any payments to landowners. State agencies may also experience increased appraisal and witness costs. The amounts, by agency and fiscal year, cannot be estimated at this time.

This bill also includes a General Fund appropriation of \$83,279 in fiscal year 2012-13 for the Department of the Attorney General to support the additional workload that results from regulatory takings. The Department of the Attorney General has identified the need for one part-time Assistant Attorney General position and one part-time Research Assistant position beginning in fiscal year 2013-14. The Judicial Department has also identified the need for additional staff beginning in fiscal year 2013-14; one Judge position, one Deputy Marshal position and one Law Clerk position. The Judicial Department will also require additional General Fund appropriations beginning in fiscal year 2013-14 for additional jury trial costs. The Judicial Department may experience an increase in Other Special Revenue Funds collections from an administrative fee that has yet to be determined.