



126th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1736

LR 2724(03)

Resolve, To Create a State-run Virtual Academy Providing Maine Students with Access to Online Learning through Their Existing School Districts

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment " "

Committee: Education and Cultural Affairs

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Undetermined future biennium cost increase - General Fund

	FY 2013-14	FY 2014-15	Projections FY 2015-16	Projections FY 2016-17
Net Cost (Savings)				
General Fund	\$0	\$273,233	\$252,380	\$282,100
Appropriations/Allocations				
General Fund	\$0	\$273,233	\$252,380	\$282,100

Fiscal Detail and Notes

This bill includes a General Fund appropriation of \$273,233 in fiscal year 2014-15 to a newly created Maine Virtual School program within the Department of Education for one Secretary Specialist position, one Education Specialist II position and one Education Specialist III position to design by August 1, 2015, and implement by August 1, 2016, a state-administered virtual academy.

The total state and local costs associated with providing all public schools in the State with access to online courses for their students will depend on the model that is developed. However, this legislation requires that the total cost per student enrolled in the virtual academy not exceed \$6,000 per year.

The Legislature will incur additional costs estimated to be \$500 in fiscal year 2013-14 and \$1,000 in fiscal year 2014-15 for the per diem and expenses of 2 legislators participating in the design of the state-administered virtual academy. These costs can be absorbed by the Legislature utilizing existing budgeted resources.