



# 130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1744

LR 2195(01)

## An Act To Increase Funding for the Animal Welfare Fund by Increasing Certain Fees

### Preliminary Fiscal Impact Statement for Original Bill

Sponsor: Sen. Dill of Penobscot

Committee: Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

### Preliminary Fiscal Impact Statement

	FY 2021-22	FY 2022-23	Projections FY 2023-24	Projections FY 2024-25
<b>Net Cost (Savings)</b>				
General Fund	\$0	\$425,000	\$425,000	\$425,000
<b>Appropriations/Allocations</b>				
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$0	\$558,720	\$558,720	\$558,720
<b>Revenue</b>				
General Fund	\$0	(\$425,000)	(\$425,000)	(\$425,000)
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$0	\$558,720	\$558,720	\$558,720

#### Fiscal Detail and Notes

This bill changes how revenue from fees collected on registrations to distribute commercial feed in the State is distributed between the Animal Welfare Fund (AWF) and the General Fund. Currently, 50% of the fee is credited to the AWF and 50% is credited to the General Fund. This bill changes this distribution to 100% credited to the AWF. Changing the ratio will eliminate the budgeted General Fund revenue from this source by \$425,000 beginning in fiscal year 2022-23 and increase Other Special Revenue Funds revenue in the AWF by \$558,720 beginning in fiscal year 2022-23.

This bill also increases the daily compensation for animal shelters holding animals pending court decisions from \$5 to \$15 for dogs and cats, from \$8 to \$18 for female cats or dogs with unweaned litters and from \$10 to \$20 for equines. It also increases from \$8 to \$20 the upper limit of daily compensation for holding livestock animals, excluding equines, fowl and rabbits.

The AWF will require additional allocations of \$558,720 beginning in fiscal year 2022-23 to allow expenditure of the additional revenue, which will be more than sufficient to cover the higher compensation paid to animal shelters.