



131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 976

LR 262(01)

Resolve, to Establish the Task Force on Accessibility to Appropriate Communication Methods for Deaf and Hard-of-hearing Patients

Preliminary Fiscal Impact Statement for Original Bill

Sponsor: Rep. Dodge of Belfast

Committee: Health and Human Services

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Preliminary Fiscal Impact Statement

Legislative Cost/Study

Legislative Cost/Study

The general operating expenses of this study are projected to be \$1,650 in fiscal year 2023-24. The Legislature's proposed budget for the 2024-2025 biennium includes \$14,500 in each of fiscal years 2023-24 and 2024-25 for the costs of legislative studies, as well as \$2,234 in projected balances from fiscal year 2022-23 and \$36,777 of balances carried over from prior years for this purpose. Whether these amounts are sufficient to fund all studies will depend on the number of studies authorized by the Legislative Council and the Legislature. The additional costs of providing staffing assistance to the study during the interim can be absorbed utilizing existing budgeted staff resources.

Fiscal Detail and Notes

Any additional costs to the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Labor, and the Maine Educational Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf to take part in the Task Force on Accessibility to Appropriate Communication Methods for Deaf and Hard-of-hearing Patients are expected to be minor and can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.