



132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1344

LR 1686(01)

An Act to Improve the Response Time to Tenant Mold Complaints

Preliminary Fiscal Impact Statement for Original Bill

Sponsor: Sen. Libby of Cumberland

Committee: Judiciary

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Preliminary Fiscal Impact Statement

Potential State Mandate - Unfunded

Minor revenue increase - General Fund

Correctional and Judicial Impact Statements

This bill may increase the number of civil suits filed in the court system. The additional workload associated with the minimal number of new cases filed in the court system does not require additional funding at this time. The collection of additional filing fees will increase General Fund revenue by minor amounts.

State Mandates

Required Activity

Requires local health officers to investigate tenant complaints about nonsurface mold and issue written reports within 90 days. Once nonsurface mold has been removed, local health officers are required to inspect dwelling units to verify all surface mold has been remediated.

Unit Affected

Municipality

Local Cost

Insignificant statewide

The required local activities in this bill may represent a state mandate pursuant to the Constitution of Maine. If the bill does require a local unit of government to expand or modify its activities so as to necessitate additional expenditures from local revenue, the state mandate provisions of the Constitution of Maine require either: (1) General Fund appropriations be provided to fund at least 90% of any additional necessitated local costs of the mandate; or (2) a Mandate Preamble be added to the bill and two-thirds of the members of each House vote to exempt the mandate from the funding requirement. If the bill does represent a state mandate and neither one of these actions occurs, the local units of government will not be required to implement the mandated activities.

Fiscal Detail and Notes

Any additional costs to the Department of Health and Human Services from the provisions of this bill are expected to be minor and can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.