



125th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1465

LR 897(02)

An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Freedom of Access

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment " "

Committee: Judiciary

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

State Mandate - Exempted

	FY 2011-12	FY 2012-13	Projections FY 2013-14	Projections FY 2014-15
Net Cost (Savings)				
General Fund	\$0	\$80,598	\$80,861	\$83,192
Appropriations/Allocations				
General Fund	\$0	\$80,598	\$80,861	\$83,192

State Mandates

Required Activity

Designate and train a Public Access Officer; provide copies of public records when requested.

Unit Affected

County
Municipality

Local Cost

Moderate
statewide

Pursuant to the Mandate Preamble, the two-thirds vote of all members elected to each House exempts the state from the constitutional requirement to fund 90% of the additional costs.

Fiscal Detail and Notes

This bill includes a General Fund appropriation of \$80,598 in fiscal year 2012-13 for the Department of the Attorney General to establish a Public Access Ombudsman position. The additional costs to other state agencies are expected to be minimal and can be absorbed utilizing existing budgeted resources. The Governor's proposed supplemental budget for 2012-2013, LD 1903, includes a General Fund appropriation of \$36,531 in fiscal year 2012-13 for one part-time Assistant Attorney General position to serve as an ombudsman to assist in compliance with the State's freedom of access laws.