



127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1073

LR 1084(02)

An Act To Lower Energy Costs and Increase Access to Solar Energy for Agricultural Businesses

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment " "

Committee: Energy, Utilities and Technology

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

	FY 2015-16	FY 2016-17	Projections FY 2017-18	Projections FY 2018-19
Appropriations/Allocations				
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$375,000	\$500,000	\$250,000	\$0
Revenue				
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$375,000	\$500,000	\$250,000	\$0
Transfers				
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Fiscal Detail and Notes

The bill establishes the Solar Energy Agricultural Rebate Fund within Efficiency Maine Trust (EMT) to provide rebates to agricultural businesses for cost-effective solar photovoltaic and solar thermal technologies. The fund is funded through assessments by the Public Utilities Commission on transmission and distribution utilities. The amount of all assessments must result in total program expenditures by each transmission and distribution utility of 0.005 cents per kilo-watt hour. New Other Special Revenue Funds revenue of \$375,000 in fiscal year 2015-16, \$500,000 in fiscal year 2016-17 and \$250,000 in fiscal year 2017-18 will be transferred to the EMT. The bill repeals these activities on December 31, 2017. This bill includes Other Special Revenue Funds allocations of \$375,000 and \$500,000 in fiscal years 2015-16 and 2016-17, respectively, for providing rebates for cost effective solar photovoltaic and solar thermal technologies. Any additional costs to EMT to implement this legislation are expected to be minor.