

129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1893

LR 2903(02)

An Act To Require a Lease of Public Lands To Be Based on Reasonable Market Value and To Require Approval of Such Leases for Commercial Purposes

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment " "
Committee: Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry
Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Minor revenue increase - Other Special Revenue Funds
Minor cost increase - General Fund

Fiscal Detail and Notes

This bill directs the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry (ACF) to terminate the existing lease agreement with Central Maine Power Company related to a certain portion of public reserved lands and to renegotiate a new lease more favorable to the State. At the time this bill was introduced in December of 2019, the ACF was receiving less than \$4,000 annually from this lease. In June of 2020 the lease agreement between the ACF and Central Maine Power Company was renegotiated independently of this bill. Under the terms of the new lease agreement, ACF will receive \$65,000 annually. Passage of this resolve will require the new lease be terminated and subsequently renegotiated. No estimate is made at this time on the amount of any costs incurred or revenue gained by a new round of negotiation of the lease in question.

Any additional costs to the Legislature for "the vote of 2/3 of all the members elected to each House" are assumed to be absorbed within exiting budgeted resources.