

130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1471

LR 1269(01)

An Act To Establish a Stewardship Program for Packaging

Preliminary Fiscal Impact Statement for Original Bill Sponsor: Sen. Dill of Penobscot Committee: Environment and Natural Resources Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Preliminary Fiscal Impact Statement

Future biennium cost increase - Other Special Revenue Funds Future biennium revenue increase - Other Special Revenue Funds

Fiscal Detail and Notes

This bill would establish stewardship programs for packaging material overseen by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). Participating parties that sell or distribute products containing certain types of packaging material would choose to create individual programs, coordinate with other parties, or utilize a third-party administrator when developing programs to meet the packaging stewardship requirements. Participating parties would pay costs related to the stewardship programs. The bill authorizes the DEP to establish fees paid by participants in the programs to offset department costs related to overseeing the program requirements. DEP has indicated that additional staffing will be required and estimates the department will require allocations of \$285,860 in fiscal year 2023-24 and \$294,123 in fiscal year 2024-25 for one Environmental Specialist III position, one Environmental Specialist IV postions and associated All Other costs. It is anticipated that the DEP will be able to fund the increased allocation with the new fees.