

## BILL ANALYSIS

### LD 203 – An Act To Increase Funding for the St. Croix International Waterway Commission (Moore)

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#### **Bill summary and legislative history**

This bill provides an additional \$25,000 per fiscal year to the St. Croix International Waterway Commission (the “Commission”) but only if the Province of New Brunswick, Canada commits to match the funding.

As noted by the sponsor, LD 203 is essentially identical to LD 450, a bill worked and voted unanimously by the ENR Committee during the 129th Legislature. That bill was reported out of ENR in 2019 but remained on the Special Appropriations Table through the adjournment sine die of the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature and thus died upon the termination of that Legislature.

#### **List of entities that submitted written testimony and/or spoke at the hearing<sup>1</sup>**

**For** – St. Croix International Waterway Commission

**Against/neither for nor against** – none

#### **Issues, suggested amendments and other notes**

**1. Biennial budget initiative** – as noted by the sponsor, the same funding increase for the Commission is included as an initiative in the Governor’s proposed biennial budget (see attached), which the AFA Committee has recently begun its work on. The Commission is one of the entities under ENR’s budgetary subject matter jurisdiction and the proposed initiative is included as part of the budget portions that will be heard by ENR and AFA during a joint hearing on March 5.

From comments made by the sponsor, it appears that this bill is intended to serve as a backup proposal in the event that the Commission’s budget initiative does not make it into the final budget amendment.

#### **Fiscal impact**

See attached preliminary fiscal impact statement prepared by the Office of Fiscal and Program Review.

If any member of the committee wishes to support this bill as proposed, the bill would need to be amended to incorporate a fiscal note based on the preliminary fiscal impact statement (i.e., a vote of “ought to pass as amended”).

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<sup>1</sup> List does not include sponsor, co-sponsors or any individuals not associated with an agency, business or organization.





Completed:

# 130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD

LR 1203(01)

## An Act To Increase Funding for the St. Croix International Waterway Commission

### Preliminary Fiscal Impact Statement for Original Bill

Sponsor: Sen. Moore of Washington

Committee: Not Referred

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

### Preliminary Fiscal Impact Statement

	FY 2020-21	FY 2021-22	FY 2022-23	Projections FY 2023-24	Projections FY 2024-25
<b>Net Cost (Savings)</b>					
General Fund	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000
<b>Appropriations/Allocations</b>					
General Fund	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000

#### Fiscal Detail and Notes

This bill includes ongoing General Fund appropriations to the St. Croix International Waterway Commission of \$25,000 starting in fiscal year 2020-21 to support a portion of operational costs and a portion of the cost of one full-time administrative assistant position. The funding is contingent upon the Province of New Brunswick, Canada providing a matching amount to the commission.