

**127th MAINE LEGISLATURE****LD 235****LR 1862(01)**

An Act To Adjust Appropriations and Allocations from the General Fund and Other Funds for the Expenditures of the Department of Education, the Maine Arts Commission and the Maine State Museum and To Change Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2015
Preliminary Fiscal Impact Statement for Original Bill

Sponsor: Rep. Rotundo of Lewiston**Committee: Education and Cultural Affairs****Fiscal Note Required: Yes****Preliminary Fiscal Impact Statement**

	FY 2014-15	FY 2015-16	FY 2016-17	Projections FY 2017-18	Projections FY 2018-19
Net Cost (Savings)					
General Fund	\$76,435	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Appropriations/Allocations					
General Fund	\$76,435	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Expenditures Fund	(\$5,598)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$3,688	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Fund Detail by Section					
Appropriations/Allocations					
General Fund					
PART B, Section 1	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
PART E, Section 1	\$76,435	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Expenditures Fund					
PART A, Section 1	(\$5,598)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other Special Revenue Funds					
PART B, Section 1	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
PART F, Section 1	\$3,688	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Fiscal Detail and Notes

This bill includes one-time appropriations and allocation in fiscal year 2014-15 to various programs within the Department of Education, the Maine Arts Commission and the Maine State Museum to support position reorganizations, reclassifications and payroll obligations.

This bill also changes the way funding for students who attend authorized public charter schools is provided beginning in the 2015-2016 school year. Current law requires the school administrative unit in which the student resides to forward the per-pupil allocation to the public charter school that the student is attending pursuant to Title 20-A, §2413. This legislation proposes to include the cost for authorized public charter schools in the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 with the state providing payments for the public charter schools total allocation directly to the charter school. This change in methodology will increase the total cost of K-12 public education by \$12.0 million in fiscal year 2015-16 and \$12.9 million in fiscal year 2016-17.

These costs are not reflected in the table above because they are included in the Governor's proposed budget for the 2016-2017 biennium. The Governor's proposed biennial budget includes additional General Fund appropriations of \$17.9 million in fiscal year 2015-16 and \$19.9 million in fiscal year 2016-17 and additional Other Special Revenue Funds allocations of \$2.4 million and \$2.6 million in fiscal years 2015-16 and 2016-17, respectively, for the General Purpose Aid for Local Schools program. Of these amounts, approximately \$14.5 million in fiscal year 2015-16 and \$15.8 million in fiscal year 2016-17 are targeted for specific initiatives, leaving approximately \$5.8 million in fiscal year 2015-16 and \$6.7 million in fiscal year 2016-17 to be distributed as subsidy to local school administrative units. According to the Department of Education, these funds will be used to support the state's share of the cost of including authorized public charter schools in the total cost of funding K-12 public education.