



127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1185

LR 1510(02)

An Act To Establish the Municipal Gigabit Broadband Network Access Fund

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
Net Cost (Savings)				
General Fund	\$6,014,693	\$19,869	\$20,573	\$0
Appropriations/Allocations				
General Fund	\$6,014,693	\$19,869	\$20,573	\$0

Fiscal Detail and Notes

This bill includes one-time General Fund appropriations totaling \$6,000,000 in fiscal year 2015-16 to the newly established Municipal Gigabit Broadband Network Access Fund within the ConnectME Authority (ConnectME) for the costs associated with addressing the need in the State for access to ultra high-speed broadband infrastructure. Of this amount, \$500,000 is appropriated for the cost to administer and hire outside consultant services for the project and \$5,500,000 is appropriated for one-time planning and implementation grants to communities and municipalities to support public-private partnerships to establish a municipal gigabit fiber-optic broadband network in their regions. The bill also includes General Fund appropriations of \$14,693 in fiscal year 2015-16 and \$19,869 in fiscal year 2016-17 for one part-time Management Analyst I position to assist ConnectME in administering this fund. This position will operate until June 30, 2018.