

128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1484

LR 446(03)

An Act Authorizing the Deorganization of the Town of Atkinson

Fiscal Note for Senate Amendment " " to Original Bill Sponsor: Sen. Langley of Hancock Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Eliminates contingent future biennium cost increase - General Fund Eliminates contingent future biennium savings - Education in the Unorganized Territories Contingent future biennium savings - General Fund

Fiscal Detail and Notes

This amendment eliminates the language in the bill that would have allowed Atkinson, and all townships that deorganize on or after July 1, 2019, to contribute to the cost of education under the same state/local funding provisions as "organized" towns and municipalities.

As amended, the deorganization of the Town of Atkinson will lower the total cost of K-12 public education beginning in fiscal year 2019-20 and result in savings to the General Purpose Aid for Local Schools program within the Department of Education. The amount of savings can not be determined at this time. For comparison purposes, the preliminary total cost allocation for Atkinson for the 2018-2019 school year is \$327,693 with the State contributing \$172,000 of that total.

As amended, the Division of State Schools - Education in the Unorganized Territories program in the Department of Education will incur future General Fund expenditures to provide services to the Unorganized Territories. These expenditures would be ongoing and would be to provide schooling to students from Atkinson. The cost can not be determined at this time, but is estimated to be approximately \$327,693 annually. The General Fund would be fully reimbursed for these costs by higher collections made through the Municipal Cost Component program.