

128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1912

LR 3057(05)

An Act To Prohibit Campaign Fund-raising at the Voting Place

Fiscal Note for House Amendment " " to Original Bill Sponsor: Rep. Espling of New Gloucester Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

	FY 2017-18	FY 2018-19	Projections FY 2019-20	Projections FY 2020-21
Net Cost (Savings) General Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Appropriations/Allocations Other Special Revenue Funds	\$0	\$3,976,470	\$0	\$0
Transfers				
General Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Fiscal Detail and Notes

This amendment transfers \$2,000,000 from the Maine Clean Election Fund (MCEF) within the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices to the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund within 10 days of the effective date of this bill. (This fiscal note assumes that will occur early in fiscal year 2018-19.) It is anticipated that this will leave a cash balance of approximately \$2,600,000 in the MCEF. The amendment also reverses this transaction later in fiscal year 2018-19 by transferring, on or before January 1, 2019, \$2,000,000 from the General Fund back to the MCEF. The amendment also includes a one-time \$3,976,470 Other Special Revenue Funds allocation in fiscal year 2018-19 for the MCEF, to correct an error in PL 2017, Chapter 284, Part ZZZZZZ, Section 19, that resulted in a negative \$1,010,665 Other Special Revenue Funds allocation in fiscal year 2018-19. As amended, the MCEF may require additional allocation if the full amount of funding available in fiscal year 2018-19 is to be expended. That allocation will need to be provided either by additional legislative action or by financial order.

For the November 2018 election only, this amendment also reduces the number of qualifying contributions that Maine Clean Elections Act candidates could collect from 9600 to 7200 for gubernatorial candidates, from 360 to 270 for State Senate candidates and from 120 to 90 for State House of Representative candidates. This will reduce anticipated payments to candidates by an estimated \$499,850 in fiscal year 2018-19 from the MCEF. This amendment also voids any qualifying contributions made to a Maine Clean Election candidate on June 12, 2018 at a voting place.