



129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1272

LR 972(02)

An Act To Increase Access to Low-cost Prescription Drugs

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment " "
Committee: Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services
Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Current biennium cost increase - General Fund

Fiscal Detail and Notes

This bill establishes a wholesale importation program for prescription drugs from Canada by or on behalf of the State in order to provide cost savings to consumers. The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) would require significant funds to hire new staff to administer the program, contract with a third party wholesaler, find suitable premises, either leased or state-owned, to store prescription drugs and other costs unknown at this time. It is expected that there will be some savings on prescription drugs in the MaineCare program, which will be offset slightly by a reduction in the rebates received for prescription drugs. As the program design is left to the DHHS's rulemaking process and the request for federal certification, no estimate of the cost of the program is made at this time.