

130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1523

LR 1388(02)

An Act To Establish the Trust for a Healthy Maine

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment " "
Committee: Health and Human Services
Fiscal Note Required: Yes

	Fiscal Note			
	FY 2021-22	FY 2022-23	Projections FY 2023-24	Projections FY 2024-25
Net Cost (Savings)				
General Fund	\$0	\$0	\$36,604,210	\$36,604,210
Fund for a Healthy Maine	\$0	\$0	(\$50,774,084)	(\$50,796,179)
Appropriations/Allocations				
General Fund	\$0	\$36,604,210	\$36,604,210	\$36,604,210
Fund for a Healthy Maine	\$0	(\$36,604,210)	(\$50,774,084)	(\$50,796,179)
Transfers				
General Fund	\$0	\$36,604,210	\$0	\$0
Fund for a Healthy Maine	\$0	(\$36,604,210)	\$0	\$0

Fiscal Detail and Notes

This bill establishes the Trust for a Healthy Maine to receive money paid to the State pursuant to the tobacco settlement and from other sources to fund tobacco use prevention and control, ensure adequate resources for other disease prevention efforts, promote public health, plan and deliver public health and prevention programs and services, support accreditation of the Department of Health and Human Services, Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention and support public health workforce development. The trust is governed by a 15-member board of trustees composed of the Director of the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention and 14 members appointed by the Governor.

The bill includes General Fund appropriations to the Department of Health and Human Services of \$36,604,210 beginning in fiscal year 2022-23 to continue funding services in multiple DHHS accounts that were previously funded through Fund for a Healthy Maine Funds. The bill also includes corresponding deallocations of \$36,604,210 beginning in fiscal year 2022-23. Finally, there is a transfer of \$36,604,210 from the Fund for a Healthy Maine to the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund by June 30, 2023.

The bill also requires the allocation of tobacco settlement payment funds to be determined by the Trust for a Healthy Maine board and this new allocation process could lead to funding decreases in some areas currently funded by the Fund for a Healthy Maine. The full impact of these changes cannot be determined at this time and will only become known when future decisions of the new board are made.

Any additional costs to the Department of Administrative and Financial Services can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources available to manage the current program. The Department of the Attorney General would receive an allocation percentage of Fund for a Healthy Maine funds beginning in fiscal year 2023-24. The impact on the department will depend on future settlement payments and could affect the department's ability to adequately enforce escrow statute in future years.