



131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 580

LR 792(03)

An Act to Improve Family Court Procedure

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment " "

Committee: Judiciary

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

| | FY 2023-24 | FY 2024-25 | Projections FY 2025-26 | Projections FY 2026-27 |
|-----------------------------------|------------|------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Net Cost (Savings) | | | | |
| General Fund | \$224,415 | \$396,881 | \$410,595 | \$424,803 |
| Appropriations/Allocations | | | | |
| General Fund | \$224,415 | \$396,881 | \$410,595 | \$424,803 |

Fiscal Detail and Notes

Beginning January 1, 2024, this bill authorizes a party to a family matter involving a child to file a motion requesting that the court issue an ex parte emergency parental rights and responsibilities order under certain circumstances and requires the court to hold a hearing 21 days after issuance on the need for continuation of the order.

The bill includes General Fund appropriations to the Judicial Department of \$224,415 in fiscal year 2023-24 and \$396,881 in fiscal year 2024-25 to establish one Judge position, one Deputy Marshal position and one Assistant Clerk position, effective January 1, 2024, to implement the aforementioned process.

Any additional costs to the Maine Commission on Domestic and Sexual Abuse associated with establishing a working group to evaluate the efficacy of the process for the emergency parental rights and responsibilities order are expected to be minor and can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.