

**132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE****LD 152****LR 338(01)****An Act to Amend the Freedom of Access Act to Require a Specific Time Frame for Agencies to Comply with Requests for Public Records****Preliminary Fiscal Impact Statement for Original Bill****Sponsor: Rep. Libby of Auburn****Committee: Judiciary****Fiscal Note Required: Yes**

Preliminary Fiscal Impact Statement

	FY 2025-26	FY 2026-27	Projections FY 2027-28	Projections FY 2028-29
Net Cost (Savings)				
General Fund	\$640,641	\$688,948	\$714,397	\$740,835
Appropriations/Allocations				
General Fund	\$640,641	\$688,948	\$714,397	\$740,835
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$148,889	\$160,156	\$165,849	\$171,763
Revenue				
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$148,889	\$160,156	\$165,849	\$171,763

Fiscal Detail and Notes

The Department of Administrative and Financial Services (DAFS) will require General Fund appropriations of \$640,641 in fiscal year 2025-26 and \$688,948 in fiscal year 2026-27 to establish 4 Public Service Coordinator I positions to provide support for Freedom of Access Act requests and administrative appeals hearing coordination, documentation aggregation and legal communications, and to transfer funding to reimburse the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) for one Assistant Attorney General position and related costs.

OAG will require Other Special Revenue Funds allocations of \$148,889 in fiscal year 2025-26 and \$160,156 in fiscal year 2026-27 for one Assistant Attorney General position and related costs to support DAFS with Freedom of Access Act requests.

OAG will require a revenue increase of \$148,889 in fiscal year 2025-26 and \$160,156 in fiscal year 2026-27 for reimbursement of costs for one Assistant Attorney General position and related costs from DAFS.

The bill increases costs to all State agencies by amending the Freedom of Access Act to require agencies and officials to make good faith efforts to fully respond to requests within the estimated time frames but must fully respond within 30 days after the dates on which requests were made.