



132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 313

LR 784(01)

An Act to Improve Voter Confidence in Electronic Ballot Counting by Requiring Ballots to Contain Unique Identifiers

Preliminary Fiscal Impact Statement for Original Bill

Sponsor: Rep. Foster of Dexter

Committee: Veterans and Legal Affairs

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Preliminary Fiscal Impact Statement

Potential State Mandate - Unfunded

	FY 2025-26	FY 2026-27	Projections FY 2027-28	Projections FY 2028-29
Net Cost (Savings)				
General Fund	\$6,375,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
Appropriations/Allocations				
General Fund	\$6,375,000	\$0	\$0	\$0

State Mandates

Required Activity

Requires municipalities to post on a publicly accessible website a list of votes for each ballot cast using a voting device organized by unique identifier.

Unit Affected

Municipality

Local Cost

Insignificant statewide

The required local activities in this bill may represent a state mandate pursuant to the Constitution of Maine. If the bill does require a local unit of government to expand or modify its activities so as to necessitate additional expenditures from local revenue, the state mandate provisions of the Constitution of Maine require either: (1) General Fund appropriations be provided to fund at least 90% of any additional necessitated local costs of the mandate; or (2) a Mandate Preamble be added to the bill and two-thirds of the members of each House vote to exempt the mandate from the funding requirement. If the bill does represent a state mandate and neither one of these actions occurs, the local units of government will not be required to implement the mandated activities.

Fiscal Detail and Notes

The bill will require a one-time General Fund appropriation of \$6,375,000 in fiscal year 2025-26 to the Department of Secretary of State for voting machines to provide a unique identifier on each ballot counted by a voting device.