

**132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE****LD 534****LR 1465(02)****An Act to Clarify the Rights of Crime Victims and Witnesses Regarding Professional Investigator Communications****Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment " "****Committee: Criminal Justice and Public Safety****Fiscal Note Required: Yes**

Fiscal Note

	FY 2025-26	FY 2026-27	Projections FY 2027-28	Projections FY 2028-29
Net Cost (Savings)				
General Fund	\$367,230	\$367,230	\$367,230	\$367,230
Appropriations/Allocations				
General Fund	\$367,230	\$367,230	\$367,230	\$367,230

Fiscal Detail and Notes

The bill states that investigators with the Maine Commission on Public Defense must be licensed. There are currently 5 investigators who are not licensed and under the bill would no longer be able to perform professional investigative work. The bill includes General Fund appropriations to the Maine Commission on Public Defense Services of \$367,230 beginning in fiscal year 2025-26 for investigative services.

Any additional costs to the Department of Public Safety from the provisions of this bill are expected to be minor and can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.