



132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 592

LR 1475(03)

An Act to Amend the Laws Governing the Crime of Endangering the Welfare of a Child

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment " "

Committee: Criminal Justice and Public Safety

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Current biennium cost increase - General Fund

Minor cost increase - General Fund

Minor revenue increase - General Fund

Minor revenue increase – Other Special Revenue Funds

Correctional and Judicial Impact Statements

This bill amends the crime of endangering the welfare of a child by creating a Class C crime for endangering the health, safety or welfare of a child by recklessly violating a duty of care or protection, resulting in serious bodily injury. It also amends this crime by creating a Class B crime for endangering the health, safety or welfare of a child by recklessly violating a duty of care or protection, resulting in death. It is unclear how many additional individuals will be convicted of Class C and B crimes who otherwise would not have been. The current average cost of incarcerating one individual for a single year is \$55,203. No funding has been included in the bill at this time.

The additional workload associated with the minimal number of new felony cases filed in the court system does not require additional funding at this time. The collection of additional fines will increase General Fund or other dedicated revenue by minor amounts.