



# 132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1696

LR 2116(02)

**Resolve, to Study Maine's Absolute Dominion and Beneficial Use Laws Relating to Water Rights**

**Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment " "**

**Committee: Environment and Natural Resources**

**Fiscal Note Required: Yes**

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## Fiscal Note

### Legislative Cost/Study

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The general operating expenses of this study are projected to be \$3,050 in fiscal year 2025-26. The Legislature's proposed budget for the 2026-2027 biennium includes \$22,196 in each of fiscal years 2025-26 and 2026-27 for the costs of legislative studies, as well as \$8,265 in projected balances from fiscal year 2024-25 and \$33,073 of balances carried over from prior years for this purpose. Whether these amounts are sufficient to fund all studies will depend on the number of studies authorized by the Legislative Council and the Legislature. The additional costs of providing staffing assistance to the study during the interim can be absorbed utilizing existing budgeted staff resources.

#### Fiscal Detail and Notes

Any additional costs for the Department of Environmental Protection or the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to serve on the commission are assumed to be minor and can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.