



# 132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1766

LR 1103(02)

## An Act to Incorporate Probate Judges into the Maine Judicial Branch

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

Committee: Judiciary

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

### Fiscal Note

	FY 2025-26	FY 2026-27	Projections FY 2027-28	Projections FY 2028-29
<b>Net Cost (Savings)</b>				
General Fund	\$0	\$421,894	\$433,696	\$3,908,244
<b>Appropriations/Allocations</b>				
General Fund	\$0	\$421,894	\$433,696	\$3,908,244

#### Fiscal Detail and Notes

The bill includes General Fund appropriations to the Judicial Branch of \$421,894 in fiscal year 2026-27 to establish one Process Specialist position and one Project Manager position to support implementation of the process to incorporate probate judges into the Maine Judicial Branch.

The responsibilities created by this bill will continue beyond the current biennium and will expand as additional phases of the transition to a state Probate Court are implemented. The Judicial Branch anticipates that additional resources will be required in future biennia beyond those provided in this bill. Any requests for funding to support ongoing implementation, including staffing and related costs, would be made through a future biennial budget process and are not reflected in this fiscal note.

In order to provide attorneys for the probate cases, the Maine Commission on Public Defense Services will require a General Fund appropriation of \$4,000,000 beginning in fiscal year 2031.