

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2006

Legislative Document

No. 1916

H.P. 1357

House of Representatives, January 4, 2006

An Act To Require That the Costs Associated with Enacting a Direct Initiative Appear on the Ballot

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

Reference to the Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

Millicent M. MacFarland

MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND

Clerk

Presented by Representative BOWLES of Sanford.
Cosponsored by Senator COURTNEY of York and
Representatives: FLETCHER of Winslow, SHIELDS of Auburn.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

4 **Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §906, sub-§8 is enacted to read:**

6 **8. Fiscal impact of direct initiative referenda.** Whenever
8 a direct initiative of legislation is presented to the voters of
10 the State pursuant to the Constitution of Maine, Article IV, Part
12 Third, Section 18, the question presented to the voters must be
14 accompanied on the ballot by a statement of the estimated fiscal
16 impact of the proposed legislation on state revenues,
18 appropriations and allocations. The Office of Fiscal and Program
Review shall prepare the fiscal statement. The validity of the
direct initiative legislation and of the voters' ratification of
that legislation is not affected by any errors in the fiscal
impact estimate. If the actual fiscal impact varies from such an
estimate, the ratification by the voters is nevertheless
conclusive and the validity of the legislation is not affected by
reason of the variance.

20 **SUMMARY**

22 The Constitution of Maine authorizes the direct initiative
24 of legislation by the people of the State. This bill requires
26 that ballots on such legislation include a statement of the
28 fiscal impact of the legislation on state revenues,
appropriations and allocations, prepared by the Office of Fiscal
and Program Review.