

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SAR
ROFS

L.D. 152

Date: 6/6/25

(Filing No. H-558)

MINORITY

JUDICIARY

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
132ND LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 85, L.D. 152, "An Act to Amend the Freedom of Access Act to Require a Specific Time Frame for Agencies to Comply with Requests for Public Records"

Amend the bill by inserting after section 2 the following:

Sec. 3. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF

Office of the Commissioner - Administrative and Financial Services 0718

Initiative: Establishes 2 Public Service Coordinator I positions to provide support for Freedom of Access Act requests and administrative appeals hearing coordination, documentation aggregation and legal communications.

GENERAL FUND	2025-26	2026-27
POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	2.000	2.000
Personal Services	\$234,738	\$253,258
All Other	\$11,138	\$11,138
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$245,876	\$264,396

Purchases - Division of 0007

Initiative: Establishes 2 Public Service Coordinator I positions to provide support for Freedom of Access Act requests and administrative appeals hearing coordination, documentation aggregation and legal communications.

GENERAL FUND	2025-26	2026-27
POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	2.000	2.000
Personal Services	\$234,738	\$253,258
All Other	\$11,138	\$11,138
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$245,876	\$264,396

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 85, L.D. 152

Purchases - Division of 0007

Initiative: Provides ongoing funding to reimburse the Department of the Attorney General for one Assistant Attorney General position and related costs.

GENERAL FUND	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$148,889	\$160,156
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$148,889	\$160,156

**ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL
SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF
DEPARTMENT TOTALS**

	2025-26	2026-27
GENERAL FUND	\$640,641	\$688,948
DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$640,641	\$688,948

ATTORNEY GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF THE**Human Services Division 0696**

Initiative: Provides funding for one Assistant Attorney General position and related costs to support the Department of Administrative and Financial Services with Freedom of Access Act requests.

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2025-26	2026-27
POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	1,000	1,000
Personal Services	\$134,955	\$145,962
All Other	\$13,934	\$14,194
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$148,889	\$160,156

**ATTORNEY GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF THE
DEPARTMENT TOTALS**

	2025-26	2026-27
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	\$148,889	\$160,156
DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$148,889	\$160,156

SECTION TOTALS

	2025-26	2026-27
GENERAL FUND	\$640,641	\$688,948
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	\$148,889	\$160,156
SECTION TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$789,530	\$849,104

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 85, L.D. 152

1 Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section
2 number to read consecutively.

3 SUMMARY

4 This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee, adds an appropriations
5 and allocations section. The amendment appropriates funding to the Department of
6 Administrative and Financial Services both to establish 4 Public Service Coordinator I
7 positions and to reimburse the Department of the Attorney General for one Assistant
8 Attorney General position for purposes of the Department of Administrative and Financial
9 Services' compliance with the requirements of the bill.

10 FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

11 (See attached)

**132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE****LD 152****LR 338(02)****An Act to Amend the Freedom of Access Act to Require a Specific Time Frame for Agencies to Comply with Requests for Public Records**

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-558)
Committee: Judiciary
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	\$640,641	\$688,948	\$714,397	\$740,835
Appropriations/Allocations				
General Fund	\$640,641	\$688,948	\$714,397	\$740,835
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$148,889	\$160,156	\$165,849	\$171,763
Revenue				
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$148,889	\$160,156	\$165,849	\$171,763

Fiscal Detail and Notes

The bill includes General Fund appropriations to the Department of Administrative and Financial Services (DAFS) of \$640,641 in fiscal year 2025-26 and \$688,948 in fiscal year 2026-27 to establish 4 Public Service Coordinator I positions to provide support for Freedom of Access Act requests and administrative appeals hearing coordination, documentation aggregation and legal communications, and to transfer funding to reimburse the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) for one Assistant Attorney General position and related costs.

The bill includes Other Special Revenue Funds allocations to the OAG of \$148,889 in fiscal year 2025-26 and \$160,156 in fiscal year 2026-27 for one Assistant Attorney General position and related costs to support DAFS with Freedom of Access Act requests.

The bill includes a revenue increase to the OAG of \$148,889 in fiscal year 2025-26 and \$160,156 in fiscal year 2026-27 for reimbursement of costs for one Assistant Attorney General position and related costs from DAFS.

The bill increases costs to all State agencies by amending the Freedom of Access Act to require agencies and officers to make good faith efforts to fully respond to requests within the estimated time frames but must fully respond within 30 days after the dates on which requests were made.