

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ROS

L.D. 654

Date:

6/3/25

(Filing No. H-451)

## JUDICIARY

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

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 422, L.D. 654, "An Act to Adjust the Maximum Small Claim Limit Based on the Consumer Price Index"

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

**'An Act to Increase the Maximum Small Claim Limit'**

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting the following:

**'Sec. 1. 14 MRSA §7482, first ¶,** as amended by PL 2009, c. 428, §1, is further amended to read:

Notwithstanding the total amount of a debt or contract, a "small claim" means a right of action cognizable by a court if the debt or damage does not exceed \$6,000 \$10,000 exclusive of interest and costs. It does not include an action involving the title to real estate.

**Sec. 2. Effective date.** This Act takes effect January 1, 2026.'

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

## SUMMARY

This amendment replaces the bill and changes the title. The amendment raises the maximum small claim limit from \$6,000 to \$10,000. The amendment also establishes an effective date of January 1, 2026.

## FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)



Approved: 05/01/25 **LRL**

# 132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 654

LR 948(02)

**An Act to Adjust the Maximum Small Claim Limit Based on the Consumer Price Index**

**Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-451)**

**Committee: Judiciary**

**Fiscal Note Required: Yes**

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## Fiscal Note

Minor cost increase - General Fund

Minor revenue increase - General Fund

## Correctional and Judicial Impact Statements

This bill may increase the number of civil suits filed in the court system. The additional workload associated with the minimal number of new cases filed in the court system does not require additional funding at this time. The collection of additional filing fees will increase General Fund revenue by minor amounts.