

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 1759

Date:

5/30/25 Minority

(Filing No. H-376)

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

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

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1177, L.D. 1759, "An Act to Allow Firefighters to Be Eligible for State College Funding"

Amend the bill in section 1 in that part designated "Sec. J-1" in the 5th line (page 1, line 7 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "\$6,500,000" and inserting the following: '\$7,100,000'

Amend the bill by striking out all of section 2 and inserting the following:

'Sec. 2. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM, BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE MAINE

MCCS Free Community College - Two Enrollment Years Z335

Initiative: Reduces one-time funding provided in Public Law 2025, chapter 2 for the State's 7 community colleges to continue offering student scholarships through the State's free community college tuition program for eligible persons who graduate high school or obtain the equivalent of a high school diploma in 2024 or 2025.

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	(\$200,000)	\$0

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	(\$200,000)	\$0
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Regional Fire Service Training Fund Z356

Initiative: Provides one-time funding to the Maine Fire Service Institute.

GENERAL FUND	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$200,000	\$0

GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$200,000	\$0
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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1177, L.D. 1759

**COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM, BOARD OF
TRUSTEES OF THE MAINE**

DEPARTMENT TOTALS	2025-26	2026-27
GENERAL FUND	\$200,000	\$0
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	(\$200,000)	\$0
DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$0	\$0

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

SUMMARY

This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee, reduces one-time funding by \$200,000, instead of \$800,000 as in the bill, to the 7 community colleges to continue offering student scholarships through the State's free community college tuition program for eligible persons who graduate high school or obtain the equivalent of a high school diploma in 2024 or 2025 in fiscal year 2025-26. The amendment appropriates \$200,000 on a one-time basis to the Maine Fire Service Institute.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)

**132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE****LD 1759****LR 1410(02)****An Act to Allow Firefighters to Be Eligible for State College Funding****Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment****Committee: Education and Cultural Affairs****Fiscal Note Required: Yes****A (H-376)**

Fiscal Note

	FY 2025-26	FY 2026-27	Projections FY 2027-28	Projections FY 2028-29
Net Cost (Savings)				
General Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Appropriations/Allocations				
General Fund	\$200,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other Special Revenue Funds	(\$200,000)	\$0	\$0	\$0
Transfers				
General Fund	\$200,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other Special Revenue Funds	(\$200,000)	\$0	\$0	\$0

Fiscal Detail and Notes

Public Law 2025, chapter 2, Part J transfers \$7,300,000 from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the Maine Community College System's (MCCS's) Free Community College - Two Enrollment Years Program on or before June 30, 2026. This bill reduces that amount by \$200,000. Because the funding provided in PL 2025, chapter 2, Part J is to support the cost of students already participating in the free college program, the Maine Community College System will not be able to absorb the loss of this funding without impacting other programs and services it offers.

This bill also includes a one-time General Fund appropriation of \$200,000 in fiscal year 2025-26 to the Regional Fire Service Training Fund within MCCS to support the Maine Fire Service Institute.