

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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MAJORITY
EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
118TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1536, L.D. 2163, Bill, "An Act to Require the State to Be Responsible for the Costs of School Employee Record Checks and Fingerprinting"

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

'An Act Regarding the Responsibility of the State for the Costs of School Employee Record Checks and Fingerprinting'

Further amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and before the summary and inserting in its place the following:

'Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §6103, sub-§4, as enacted by PL 1995, c. 547, §5, is amended to read:

4. Expenses; limitation on state responsibility. ~~Notwithstanding Title 26, sections 594 and 629, the~~ The expense of obtaining the information required by this section must be paid by the applicant person applying for initial certification, authorization or approval. The State is responsible for the expenses of obtaining criminal history record checks and fingerprinting for any person applying for renewal of certification, authorization or approval.

Sec. 2. Department of Education; limitation. In the event that money from the General Fund is not appropriated to the Department of Education to carry out the purposes of this Act, the department is not responsible for the expenses of obtaining criminal history record checks and fingerprinting for any person applying for renewal of certification, authorization or approval.'

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the summary the following:

FISCAL NOTE

The Department of Education will require future additional General Fund appropriations estimated to be \$362,500 and \$275,500 in fiscal years 1999-2000 and 2000-01, respectively, for the expenses of obtaining fingerprinting and criminal record checks for individuals seeking renewal of their educational certifications, authorizations or approvals.'

SUMMARY

This amendment requires the applicant for initial certification, authorization or approval as a teacher or other educational employee to pay for the expenses involved in undergoing fingerprinting and obtaining criminal record checks. The amendment also requires that the Legislature appropriate money from the General Fund to the Department of Education to cover the expenses of obtaining fingerprinting and criminal record checks for any person applying for renewal of certification, authorization or approval. The amendment further requires that, in the event that money from the General Fund is not appropriated to the Department of Education to carry out the purposes of this Act, the department is not responsible for the expenses of obtaining criminal history record checks and fingerprinting for any person applying for renewal of certification, authorization or approval.

The amendment also adds a fiscal note to the bill.