

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ROB

L.D. 1051

DATE: 4-24-03

(Filing No. H-176)

MINORITY
INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
121ST LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 768, L.D. 1051, Bill, "An Act To Expand the Mission of the Public Advocate"

Amend the bill by inserting after section 2 the following:

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

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Public Advocate

Initiative: Provides funds for 3 Senior Counsel positions, a Senior Legal Secretary position and general operating funds required to set up and rent new office space for the expanded duties of the Public Advocate.

| Other Special Revenue Funds | 2003-04 | 2004-05 |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|------------|
| Positions - Legislative Count | (4,000) | (4,000) |
| Personal Services | \$264,480 | \$352,640 |
| All Other | 219,688 | 270,262 |
| Other Special Revenue Funds Total | \$484,168 | \$622,902' |

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 768, L.D. 1051

SUMMARY

2

This amendment is the minority report of the committee. It
4 adds an allocation section to the bill.

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FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED
(See attached)

8

**121st Maine Legislature
Office of Fiscal and Program Review**



LD 1051

An Act To Expand the Mission of the Public Advocate

LR 1263(02)

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment " "

Committee: Insurance and Financial Services

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Current biennium cost increase - Other Special Revenue Funds
Current biennium revenue increase - Other Special Revenue Funds

| | 2003-04 | 2004-05 | Projections 2005-06 | Projections 2006-07 |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Appropriations/Allocations | | | | |
| Other Special Revenue Funds | \$484,168 | \$622,902 | \$638,475 | \$654,436 |
| Revenue | | | | |
| Other Special Revenue Funds | \$484,168 | \$622,902 | \$638,475 | \$654,436 |

Fiscal Detail and Notes

Expanding the duties of the Public Advocate to include oversight of the insurance industry will require three Senior Counsel positions, a Senior Legal Secretary position and general operating funds to set up and rent new office space. These new positions are required for the representation of consumers at the Bureau of Insurance and to handle complaint investigation requirements. These allocations are to be offset by additional revenue derived from establishing a filing fee of \$50,000 on an insurer who files for a rate change to workers' compensation insurance or employers' liability insurance. The Bureau of Insurance in the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation may also incur additional costs under this bill to address issues raised by the Public Advocate. These additional costs will depend on the workload generated by the Public Advocate and cannot be estimated at this time.