

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 1794

DATE: 2-25-04

(Filing No. H-724)

TAXATION

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
121ST LEGISLATURE
SECOND SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1316, L.D. 1794, Bill, "An Act To Expand Maine's Homestead Exemption for the Blind"

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

'Sec. 1. 36 MRSA §654, sub-§1, ¶E, as amended by PL 1995, c. 545, §1, is further amended to read:

E. The residential real estate up to the just value of \$4,000 of inhabitants of Maine who are legally blind as determined by a properly licensed Doctor of Medicine, Doctor of Osteopathy or Doctor of Optometry. The exemption provided by this paragraph also applies to residential real estate held in a revocable living trust for the benefit of and occupied as a permanent residence by such a person; and'

SUMMARY

This amendment clarifies the expansion of the exemption to property held in a revocable living trust for a person who is blind and who occupies the property as that person's permanent residence.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED
(See attached)

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

121st Maine Legislature
Office of Fiscal and Program Review

LD 1794

An Act To Expand Maine's Homestead Exemption for the Blind



LR 2562(02)

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment " "

Committee: Taxation

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Future Cost - State Mandate

	2003-04	2004-05	Projections 2005-06	Projections 2006-07
Net Cost (Savings)				
General Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$300
Appropriations/Allocations				
General Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$300

State Mandate

New or Expanded Activity	Unit Affected	Costs
Administrative expenses associated with expanding the property tax exemption.	Municipality	Insignificant

Fiscal Detail and Notes

The cost to reimburse municipalities for 50% of the property tax revenue loss associated with the expansion of this exemption is estimated to be \$300 beginning in fiscal year 2006-07. This is in addition to the state mandate created by the minor administrative responsibilities at the local level associated with the new exemption.