

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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R.O.S.

L.D. 70

DATE: 5/12/5

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LEGAL AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
122ND LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 66, L.D. 70, Bill, "An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Funding of State Special Elections"

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

Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §633, as enacted by PL 1985, c. 161, §6, is amended to read:

§633. Election expenses; regular elections

Except for the added expenses incurred by a municipality under section 632, each municipality shall pay for the expense it incurs in calling, holding and reporting the results of an election except for the added expenses incurred by a municipality under section 632 and except for special elections held for the purpose of voting on bonds issued by the State. The State shall pay for other election expenses incurred as a result of the performance by state officials of their duties under this Title.

Sec. 2. 21-A MRSA §633-A is enacted to read:

§633-A. Election expenses; special elections for bonds

1. Reimbursement for special election for bond issue. The expenses each municipality or county incurs in calling, holding and reporting the results of a special election held for the purpose of voting on bonds issued by the State must be reimbursed

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 66, L.D. 70

by the State according to this section. The reimbursement provided to municipalities and counties is calculated by multiplying the municipality's population by its special election reimbursement rate. The special election reimbursement rates are set as follows.

A. For municipalities with populations of less than 1,000, the rate is 95¢;

B. For municipalities with populations between 1,000 and 4,999, the rate is 35¢;

C. For municipalities with populations between 5,000 and 10,000, the rate is 30¢; and

D. For municipalities with populations greater than 10,000, the rate is 25¢.

Population is determined by the latest Federal Decennial Census or the population as determined and certified by the Department of Health and Human Services, whichever is more recent.

2. Reimbursement in unorganized territory. If a municipality or county is not reimbursed pursuant to section 632 for the cost of calling, holding and reporting the results of a special election in an unorganized territory held for the purpose of voting on bonds issued by the State, the reimbursement that would be provided to the unorganized territory pursuant to this section must be provided by the State to the entity that incurred the cost of the special election.

3. Forms. The Secretary of State shall design a form to be provided to municipalities no later than 10 business days before a special election held for the purpose of voting on bonds issued by the State. In order to receive any reimbursement, a municipal clerk must complete the form and return it to the Secretary of State no later than 10 business days after the special election. Upon receipt of the form, the Secretary of State shall review the forms for payment within 30 business days of receipt of the form from the municipality.'

SUMMARY

This amendment replaces the bill. It provides that the State reimburse municipalities for the costs of conducting a special election for the purpose of voting on bonds. Reimbursement rates are based on the population of a municipality.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED  
(See attached)

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT



# 122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 70

LR 0895(02)

## An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Funding of State Special Elections

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A"

Committee: Legal and Veterans Affairs

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

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### Fiscal Note

Undetermined current biennium cost increase - General Fund

#### Fiscal Detail and Notes

Requiring that the Secretary of State must use a particular formula by which municipalities will be reimbursed for the costs of certain special elections authorized by the Legislature will increase the General Fund costs to the Department of the Secretary of State. The amounts will depend on the number of special elections authorized by the Legislature and can not be determined at this time. The Department of the Secretary of State estimates that the formula-driven reimbursement cost will equal \$446,838 for each eligible special election that takes place.