

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Date: 5/15/13 minority

L.D. 110
(Filing No. H-168)

VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
126TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 92, L.D. 110, Bill, "An Act To Limit Political Contributions by Public Employee Labor Unions"

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

'An Act Regarding Political Communications by Public Employee Labor Unions'

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

'Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §1015, sub-§10 is enacted to read:

10. Political expenditures by public employee labor union. A public employee labor union may not make expenditures for political communications, as described in section 1014, that are paid for using dues that are received from members of that union. This subsection does not prohibit a public employee labor union from using dues to make contributions to a political action committee as defined by section 1052, subsection 5.'

SUMMARY

This amendment, which is the minority report, replaces the bill and prohibits a public employee labor union from using dues to fund political communications. Dues may be used to fund a contribution to a political action committee.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT



126th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 110

LR 670(02)

An Act To Limit Political Contributions by Public Employee Labor Unions

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment 'A' (H-168)
Committee: Veterans and Legal Affairs
Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Potential current biennium cost increase - General Fund

Fiscal Detail and Notes

This legislation prohibits public employee labor unions from using funds in the form of membership dues to pay for political communications unless those funds have been contributed to a political action committee. The Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices has indicated that it is likely this legislation could be challenged legally. If that happens, and if the court finds for the plaintiff, the Commission could be required to pay the plaintiff's attorneys fees and court costs.