

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Date: 5/17/13

L.D. 962

(Filing No. H-133)

Minority

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

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STATE OF MAINE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

126TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 676, L.D. 962, Bill, "An Act To Increase Access to Higher Education"

Amend the bill in section 4 in §11681 in the indented paragraph in the 9th and 10th lines (page 1, line 25 and 26 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "annual family income is less than \$30,000" and inserting the following: 'expected family contribution is less than an amount established by the authority'

Amend the bill in section 4 in §11681 in the indented paragraph in the last line (page 1, line 31 in L.D.) by inserting after the following: "section." the following: 'For purposes of this section, "expected family contribution" means the amount that the family of a student may be reasonably expected to contribute toward postsecondary education for the academic year for which the student is seeking a scholarship under this chapter.'

SUMMARY

This amendment, which is the minority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, modifies the Maine Merit Scholarship Program to replace income eligibility with eligibility based on expected family contribution. Expected family contribution is the standard that is used to determine financial need under various federal scholarship programs and under the Maine State Grant Program administered by the Finance Authority of Maine.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT



Approved: 04/17/13 *MAC*

126th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 962

LR 1223(02)

An Act To Increase Access to Higher Education

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment

Committee: Education and Cultural Affairs

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

A (H-133)

Fiscal Note

Current biennium cost increase - General Fund

Fiscal Detail and Notes

This bill establishes the Maine Merit Scholarship Program with a nonlapsing fund under the jurisdiction and control of the Finance Authority of Maine. Because this legislation does not identify a source of funding to capitalize and support the fund and establish and administer the program, General Fund appropriations will be required beginning in fiscal year 2013-14. The Finance Authority of Maine will require General Fund appropriations of \$50,000 in fiscal year 2013-14 and \$38,000 per year beginning in fiscal year 2014-15 to establish and administer the program.