

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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R.O.F.S.
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L.D. 1001

Date: 5/31/2013

(Filing No. S-1000)

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VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

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Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Secretary of the Senate.

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STATE OF MAINE

6

SENATE

7

126TH LEGISLATURE

8

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 346, L.D. 1001, Bill, "An Act To Improve Laws Governing Financial Disclosure by Legislators and Certain Public Employees and Public Access to Information Disclosed"

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Amend the bill by striking out all of section 2 and inserting the following:

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'Sec. 2. 1 MRSA §1016-G, sub-§5, as enacted by PL 2011, c. 634, §11, is amended to read:

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5. Public record. Statements filed under this section are public records. The commission shall ~~publish~~ provide a means for Legislators to file statements in an electronic format that must immediately place the statements on a publicly accessible website ~~the completed forms of Legislators filed under this section.~~ Legislators shall file statements required by this section using the electronic format prescribed by the commission. If a Legislator can attest to an inability to access or use the electronic filing format, the commission may provide assistance to the Legislator to ensure proper and timely placement of the required statements on the publicly accessible website.'

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Amend the bill by striking out all of sections 4 and 5 and inserting the following:

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'Sec. 4. 5 MRSA §19, sub-§6, as amended by PL 2007, c. 704, §9, is further amended to read:

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6. Public record. Statements filed under this section are public records. The Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices shall ~~publish~~ provide a means for executive employees to file statements in an electronic format that must immediately place the statements on a publicly accessible website ~~the completed forms of executive employees filed under this section.~~ Executive employees shall file statements required by this section using the electronic format prescribed by the commission. If an executive employee can attest to an inability to access or use the electronic filing format, the commission may provide assistance to the employee to ensure proper and timely placement of the required statements on the publicly accessible website.

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Sec. 5. Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices to recommend method for disclosing income in ranges. By February 1, 2014, the

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

R O F S

1 staff of the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices shall recommend
2 to the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs a method for providing
3 disclosure of income received by Legislators and certain employees of the executive
4 branch as ranges of income reported. The committee shall consider the recommendations
5 of the commission and seek input from Legislators and members of the executive branch
6 subject to disclosure requirements. The committee is authorized to report out a bill to the
7 Second Regular Session of the 126th Legislature directing the commission to adopt major
8 substantive rules, as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, chapter 375,
9 subchapter 2-A, to require that income disclosures, required by Title 1, section 1016-G
10 and Title 5, section 19, be submitted in ranges.

11 **Sec. 6. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and
12 allocations are made.

13 **ETHICS AND ELECTION PRACTICES, COMMISSION ON GOVERNMENTAL**
14 **Governmental Ethics and Election Practices - Commission on 0414**

15 Initiative: Provides one-time funding to develop and implement a new electronic filing
16 system.

17	GENERAL FUND	2013-14	2014-15
18	All Other	\$50,000	\$0
19			
20	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$50,000</u>	<u>\$0</u>
21			

22 Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or
23 section number to read consecutively.

24 **SUMMARY**

25 This amendment clarifies language in the bill regarding the requirement that financial
26 disclosure statements required to be filed by Legislators and certain executive branch
27 employees be filed electronically and immediately placed on a publicly accessible
28 website. It also allows the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices to
29 assist with the electronic filing if necessary. The amendment removes the requirement
30 that the commission adopt routine technical rules to provide for income disclosures to be
31 sorted in ranges based on amount. Instead, the amendment directs the commission to
32 make recommendations to the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs,
33 which may then submit a bill directing the commission to adopt major substantive rules to
34 provide for income disclosures to be reported in ranges based on income amount.

35 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

36 (See attached)



126th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1001

LR 2005(02)

An Act To Improve Laws Governing Financial Disclosure by Legislators and Certain Public Employees and Public Access to Information Disclosed

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-166)

Committee: Veterans and Legal Affairs

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

	FY 2013-14	FY 2014-15	Projections FY 2015-16	Projections FY 2016-17
Net Cost (Savings)				
General Fund	\$50,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
Appropriations/Allocations				
General Fund	\$50,000	\$0	\$0	\$0

Fiscal Detail and Notes

The bill includes a one-time General Fund appropriation of \$50,000 in fiscal year 2013-14 to the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices to develop and implement a new electronic filing system.