

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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5/19  
R O B S

Date: 6/5/13

Minority

(Filing No. H-355)

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**CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY**

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

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 736, L.D. 1045, Bill, "An Act To Establish the Forensic Advisory Committee"

Amend the bill in section 2 in §3036 in subsection 1 in the 4th line (page 1, line 11 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "The chair" and inserting the following: "The Governor, subject to review by the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over criminal justice and public safety matters and to confirmation by the Legislature."

Amend the bill in section 2 in §3036 in subsection 1 in paragraph D in the first line (page 1, line 18 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "research scientist"

Amend the bill in section 2 in §3036 in subsection 4 in paragraph A by striking out all of the first 5 lines (page 2, lines 1 to 5 in L.D.) and inserting the following:

'A. Review operations at the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, the Maine State Police Crime Laboratory and the forensic chemistry section of the Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory and make recommendations to the Attorney General regarding the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, to the Commissioner of Public Safety regarding the Maine State Police Crime Laboratory and to the Commissioner of Health and Human Services regarding the Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory concerning.'

Amend the bill in section 2 in §3036 in subsection 4 in paragraph D by striking out all of the first 2 lines (page 2, lines 20 and 21 in L.D.) and inserting the following:

'D. Review and make recommendations to the Attorney General regarding the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, to the Commissioner of Public Safety regarding the Maine State Police Crime Laboratory and to the Commissioner of Health and Human Services regarding the Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory concerning.'

Amend the bill in section 2 in §3036 by striking out all of subsection 5 (page 2, lines 26 to 31 in L.D.) and inserting the following:

'5. Recommendations. The Attorney General, the Commissioner of Public Safety and the Commissioner of Health and Human Services shall review the annual report

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

R.O.F.S

1 under subsection 2 and provide recommendations and suggested legislation to the joint  
2 standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over criminal justice and public  
3 safety matters based on the report. The committee may report out legislation based upon  
4 the recommendations and suggested legislation.'

5 Amend the bill by inserting after section 2 the following:

6 'Sec. 3. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and  
7 allocations are made.

8 **ATTORNEY GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF THE**

9 **Administration - Attorney General 0310**

10 Initiative: Provides funds for one Assistant Attorney General position to serve as the  
11 executive director of the Forensic Advisory Committee and related costs.

|    |                               |                  |                  |
|----|-------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 12 | <b>GENERAL FUND</b>           | <b>2013-14</b>   | <b>2014-15</b>   |
| 13 | POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT | 1,000            | 1,000            |
| 14 | Personal Services             | \$62,988         | \$88,587         |
| 15 | All Other                     | \$60,556         | \$78,034         |
| 16 |                               |                  |                  |
| 17 | GENERAL FUND TOTAL            | <u>\$123,544</u> | <u>\$166,621</u> |

18  
19 Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or  
20 section number to read consecutively.

21 **SUMMARY**

22 This amendment, which is the minority report, makes the following changes to the  
23 Forensic Advisory Committee in the bill.

24 1. It requires the Governor, rather than the chair of the committee, to appoint 4 of the  
25 members of the committee.

26 2. It requires the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over  
27 criminal justice and public safety matters to review, and the Legislature to confirm, the  
28 appointments made by the Governor to the committee.

29 3. It requires an academic with a doctorate in biological sciences, rather than an  
30 academic research scientist, to be appointed to the committee.

31 4. It requires the committee to make recommendations for each laboratory in the bill  
32 to the entity that has specific oversight authority over the laboratory.

33 5. It allows the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over  
34 criminal justice and public safety matters to report out legislation, rather than a bill.

35 The amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations section.

36 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

37 (See attached)



# 126th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1045

LR 1147(02)

## An Act To Establish the Forensic Advisory Committee

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment  
Committee: Criminal Justice and Public Safety

*A (H-355)*

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

### Fiscal Note

|                                   | FY 2013-14 | FY 2014-15 | Projections<br>FY 2015-16 | Projections<br>FY 2016-17 |
|-----------------------------------|------------|------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Net Cost (Savings)</b>         |            |            |                           |                           |
| General Fund                      | \$123,544  | \$166,621  | \$169,279                 | \$172,017                 |
| <b>Appropriations/Allocations</b> |            |            |                           |                           |
| General Fund                      | \$123,544  | \$166,621  | \$169,279                 | \$172,017                 |

#### Fiscal Detail and Notes

This bill includes a General Fund appropriation of \$123,544 in fiscal year 2013-14 and \$166,621 in fiscal year 2014-15 to the Department of the Attorney General for one Assistant Attorney General position to serve as the Executive Director of the Forensic Advisory Committee. Additional costs to the University of Maine System and the departments of Public Safety and Health and Human Services can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.