

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 268

Date: 3/26/21

(Filing No. S-37)

AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

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**STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
130TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 118, L.D. 268, "An Act To Eliminate Online Burn Permit Fees for All Areas of the State"

Amend the bill by inserting after section 2 the following:

Sec. 3. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

**AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY, DEPARTMENT OF
Division of Forest Protection Z232**

Initiative: Provides funding for an online burn permit system from InforME.

GENERAL FUND	2021-22	2022-23
All Other	\$7,200	\$9,600
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$7,200	\$9,600

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

SUMMARY

This amendment adds an appropriations and allocations section.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT



130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 268

LR 918(02)

An Act To Eliminate Online Burn Permit Fees for All Areas of the State

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-37)

Committee: Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

	FY 2021-22	FY 2022-23	Projections FY 2023-24	Projections FY 2024-25
Net Cost (Savings)				
General Fund	\$39,554	\$52,739	\$52,739	\$52,739
Appropriations/Allocations				
General Fund	\$7,200	\$9,600	\$9,600	\$9,600
Revenue				
General Fund	(\$32,354)	(\$43,139)	(\$43,139)	(\$43,139)

Fiscal Detail and Notes

This bill eliminates the \$7 fee the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry (ACF) charges for electronically issued burn permits via its online permit system. Currently, \$4 is deposited into the General Fund, \$2 is transferred to the municipality where the permit was issued and \$1 goes to InforME for the administrative cost of the online permit system. In unorganized areas, \$6 of the fee is deposited into the General Fund and \$1 is for the administrative costs of InforME. Elimination of the fee reduces annual General Fund revenue by \$32,354 in fiscal year 2021-22 and \$43,139 in fiscal year 2022-23, reduces revenue to municipalities by approximately \$20,000 a year and reduces revenue available to pay InforME by \$9,600. The bill includes ongoing General Fund appropriations to ACF of \$7,200 in fiscal year 2021-22 and \$9,600 in fiscal year 2022-23 to continue to pay InforME for burn permits issued through the state online system. Municipalities may incur additional costs if a vendor or owner of a private party burn permit software system charges for use of its software.