

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Majority

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L.D. 2018

Date: 4-13-22

(Filing No. H-999)

MAJORITY

ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
130TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1500, L.D. 2018, "An Act To Implement Recommendations Regarding the Incorporation of Equity Considerations in Regulatory Decision Making"

Amend the bill by inserting after section 3 the following:

Sec. 4. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, DEPARTMENT OF
Maine Environmental Protection Fund 0421**

Initiative: Provides funding for one Public Service Coordinator I position, 2 Law Clerk positions, one GIS Coordinator position and associated position costs.

| GENERAL FUND | 2021-22 | 2022-23 |
|-------------------------------|----------------|------------------|
| POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT | 0,000 | 4,000 |
| Personal Services | \$0 | \$280,696 |
| All Other | \$0 | \$12,292 |
| GENERAL FUND TOTAL | \$0 | \$292,988 |

Maine Environmental Protection Fund 0421

Initiative: Provides funding for facilitator services, travel expenses, facility rentals and meeting expenses.

| GENERAL FUND | 2021-22 | 2022-23 |
|---------------------------|----------------|------------------|
| All Other | \$0 | \$150,000 |
| GENERAL FUND TOTAL | \$0 | \$150,000 |

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION,
DEPARTMENT OF**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

ROS

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1500, L.D. 2018

| | | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|----------------|------------------|
| 1 | DEPARTMENT TOTALS | 2021-22 | 2022-23 |
| 2 | | | |
| 3 | GENERAL FUND | \$0 | \$442,988 |
| 4 | | | |
| 5 | DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS | \$0 | \$442,988 |

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

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SUMMARY

10 This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, adds an appropriations
11 and allocations section.

12

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

13

(See attached)

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT



130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 2018

LR 2654(02)

An Act To Implement Recommendations Regarding the Incorporation of Equity Considerations in Regulatory Decision Making

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment *A(H-999)*

Committee: Environment and Natural Resources

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 | \$0 | \$442,988 | \$585,644 | \$605,658 |
| Appropriations/Allocations | | | | |
| General Fund | \$0 | \$442,988 | \$585,644 | \$605,658 |

Fiscal Detail and Notes

This bill changes provisions applicable to intervenors in Public Utilities Commission (PUC) proceedings to broaden eligibility for intervenor funding and to require certain utilities to compensate intervenors. The compensation provided by a utility may be recovered in rates subject to the ratemaking process approval by the PUC.

The bill also establishes definitions for "environmental justice," "frontline communities," and associated terminology. Additionally, the bill requires the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to adopt procedures to ensure fair and equitable access to the DEP decision-making process. DEP has indicated that incorporating these requirements will necessitate 4 additional positions and resources. The bill includes ongoing appropriations of \$292,988 beginning in fiscal year 2022-23 for one Public Service Coordinator position, two Law Clerk positions, one GIS Coordinator position and associated costs. The bill also includes ongoing appropriations of \$150,000 beginning in fiscal year 2022-23 for expenses related to expanded community engagement activities regarding the DEP decision-making process.