

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L D 1028

Date 5/31/23

(Filing No H-269)

**EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

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**STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
131ST LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H P 664, L D 1028, "An Act to Expand the Higher Education Tuition Waiver for Persons Who Have Resided in Foster Care"

Amend the bill by striking out all of section 1

Amend the bill by inserting after section 3 the following

**Sec. 4. 20-A MRSA §12574** is enacted to read

**§12574. Department of Health and Human Services notification**

The authority shall notify the Department of Health and Human Services of the name of each person determined to be eligible under section 12573, subsection 2. After receipt of notice of eligibility, the Department of Health and Human Services shall advise an eligible person who is 18 years of age or older and under 23 years of age of the opportunity to enter into a voluntary extended care agreement under Title 22, section 4037-A.

**Sec. 5. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and allocations are made

**FINANCE AUTHORITY OF MAINE**

**Foster Care Tuition Waiver N446**

Initiative Provides ongoing funds for tuition waivers for an additional 20 eligible persons per year at the University of Maine System and the Maine Community College System

<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>
All Other	\$119,639	\$239,278
<b>GENERAL FUND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$119,639</b>	<b>\$239,278</b>

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

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H P 664, L D 1028

**SUMMARY**

1  
2 This amendment removes the eligibility requirement of a person to enter into a  
3 voluntary extended care agreement with the Department of Health and Human Services for  
4 a tuition waiver. The amendment requires, after receipt of notification of eligibility by the  
5 Finance Authority of Maine, the Department of Health and Human Services to advise each  
6 eligible person who is 18 years of age or older and under 23 years of age of the opportunity  
7 to enter into such an agreement. This amendment also adds an appropriations and  
8 allocations section.

**FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

(See attached)

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**



# 131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1028

LR 725(02)

## An Act to Expand the Higher Education Tuition Waiver for Persons Who Have Resided in Foster Care

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-269)  
 Committee: Education and Cultural Affairs  
 Fiscal Note Required: Yes

### Fiscal Note

	FY 2023-24	FY 2024-25	Projections FY 2025-26	Projections FY 2026-27
<b>Net Cost (Savings)</b>				
General Fund	\$119,639	\$239,278	\$337,749	\$436,220
<b>Appropriations/Allocations</b>				
General Fund	\$119,639	\$239,278	\$337,749	\$436,220

### Fiscal Detail and Notes

Current law requires a state postsecondary educational institution to absorb the reduction in tuition revenue that results from providing tuition waivers to 30 new students per year who have resided in foster care per year. This bill increases the number of tuition waivers that must be granted to eligible students from 30 to 50 and requires the cost of the additional 20 waivers to be funded by General Fund appropriations. The waivers are to be available to eligible students at the University of Maine System (UMS) and the Maine Community College System (MCCS).

The bill includes ongoing General Fund appropriations of \$119,639 in fiscal year 2023-24 and \$239,278 in fiscal year 2024-25 to a newly created Foster Care Tuition Waiver program within the Finance Authority of Maine (FAME) for the cost of providing an additional 20 tuition waivers per year to eligible persons at the UMS and the MCCS. This assumes that one-third of the new tuition waivers will be provided to eligible students attending the MCCS and two-thirds of the new waivers will be provided to eligible students attending the UMS. This estimates also assumes that the administrative costs to FAME to administer the program is 5% of the total General Fund appropriation.

Any additional costs to the Department of Health and Human Services from the provisions of this bill are expected to be minor and can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.