

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LD 1070

Date 5/15/23

(Filing No S-98 )

**MINORITY**  
**VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS**

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**STATE OF MAINE**  
**SENATE**  
**131ST LEGISLATURE**  
**FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S P 439, LD 1070, "An Act to Increase  
Ballot Transparency with Blockchain Technology"

Amend the bill by incorporating the attached fiscal note

**SUMMARY**

This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee, incorporates a fiscal  
note

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**



# 131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1070

LR 1710(02)

## An Act to Increase Ballot Transparency with Blockchain Technology

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (598)

Committee: Veterans and Legal Affairs

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

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### Fiscal Note

Current biennium cost increase - General Fund

#### Fiscal Detail and Notes

This bill requires all electronic tabulating devices to scan and extract vote data from the ballot and create a blockchain transaction for every ballot which would be maintained on a publicly accessible website. Currently, only 329 towns have ballot scanning and counting machines, 156 do not and none are connected to a network. These remaining towns would need to have electronic tabulators and all tabulators would need to be connected to a network. According to the Department of Secretary of State, significant costs and work would need to occur to overcome cybersecurity exposure caused by attaching the tabulators to a network. Further, the technology and devices needed to extract tabulator information to create a block chain transaction does not currently exist and would need to be developed. The department has estimated these costs to be as much as \$10 million or more.