

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY**

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

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H P 782, L D 1234, "An Act to Provide Reimbursement for Health Care Expenses of Retired State Police Law Enforcement Dogs"

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following

**'An Act to Provide Reimbursement for the Health Care Expenses of All Retired Law Enforcement, Corrections and Search and Rescue Dogs'**

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting the following

**'Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §10111** is enacted to read

**§10111. Health care for retired search and rescue dogs**

**1. Definitions.** As used in this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings

**A "Authorized handler" means a current or former law enforcement officer or other state employee who was the handler of a retired search and rescue dog during the dog's active service for the department and who is currently responsible for the well-being and health care of the dog**

**B "Search and rescue dog" has the same meaning as in Title 14, section 164-B, subsection 1, paragraph D**

**2. Health care for retired search and rescue dogs.** The department shall pay the health care expenses of a retired search and rescue dog that was used in service by the department Upon submission of receipts of bona fide health care expenses on behalf of the dog, the department shall reimburse the authorized handler of the dog up to \$5,000 per calendar year

**3. Administration.** The department shall administer the payment of health care expenses for retired search and rescue dogs under subsection 2.

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

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4. Rules. The department may adopt rules to administer this section Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A

**Sec. 2. 25 MRSA §1509-B** is enacted to read  
**§1509-B. Health care for retired law enforcement dogs**

1. Definitions. As used in this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings

A "Authorized handler" means a current or former law enforcement officer or other state employee who was the handler of a retired law enforcement dog during the dog's active service for the department and who is currently responsible for the well-being and health care of the dog

B "Department" means the Department of Public Safety

C "Law enforcement dog" means a dog trained for law enforcement use that is actively certified pursuant to federal, national, regional or state standards and that is owned or maintained by the department for law enforcement or security services

2. Health care for retired law enforcement dogs. The department shall pay the health care expenses of a retired law enforcement dog that was used in service by the department. Upon submission of receipts of bona fide health care expenses on behalf of the dog, the department shall reimburse the authorized handler of the dog up to \$5,000 per calendar year

3. Administration. The department shall administer the payment of health care expenses for retired law enforcement dogs under subsection 2.

4. Rules. The department may adopt rules to administer this section Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A

**Sec. 3. 34-A MRSA §1220** is enacted to read  
**§1220. Health care for retired corrections dogs**

1. Definitions. As used in this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings

A "Authorized handler" means a current or former corrections officer or other state employee who was the handler of a retired corrections dog during the dog's active service for the department and who is currently responsible for the well-being and health care of the dog

B "Corrections dog" means a dog trained for corrections use that is actively certified pursuant to federal, national, regional or state standards and that is owned or maintained by the department for corrections services

2. Health care for retired corrections dogs. The department shall pay the health care expenses of a retired corrections dog that was used in service by the department. Upon submission of receipts of bona fide health care expenses on behalf of the dog, the department shall reimburse the authorized handler of the dog up to \$5,000 per calendar year

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**3. Administration.** The department shall administer the payment of health care expenses for retired corrections dogs under subsection 2

**4. Rules.** The department may adopt rules to administer this section Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A

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

**CORRECTIONS, DEPARTMENT OF  
Administration - Corrections 0141**

Initiative Provides funding to reimburse authorized handlers of retired corrections dogs for health care expenses paid by the handlers up to \$5,000 per calendar year

<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>
All Other	\$20,000	\$20,000
<b>GENERAL FUND TOTAL</b>	\$20,000	\$20,000

**CORRECTIONS, DEPARTMENT OF  
DEPARTMENT TOTALS**

<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>
	\$20,000	\$20,000
<b>DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS</b>	\$20,000	\$20,000

**INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE, DEPARTMENT OF  
Search and Rescue 0538**

Initiative Provides funding to reimburse authorized handlers of retired search and rescue dogs for health care expenses paid by the handlers up to \$5,000 per calendar year

<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>
All Other	\$15,000	\$15,000
<b>GENERAL FUND TOTAL</b>	\$15,000	\$15,000

**INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE,  
DEPARTMENT OF  
DEPARTMENT TOTALS**

<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>
	\$15,000	\$15,000
<b>DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS</b>	\$15,000	\$15,000

**PUBLIC SAFETY, DEPARTMENT OF  
Fire Marshal - Office of 0327**

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Initiative Provides funding to reimburse authorized handlers of retired law enforcement dogs for health care expenses paid by the handlers up to \$5,000 per calendar year

3	<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>
4	All Other	\$10,000	\$10,000
5			
6	<b>GENERAL FUND TOTAL</b>	<u>\$10,000</u>	<u>\$10,000</u>

7 **State Police 0291**

8 Initiative Provides funding to reimburse authorized handlers of retired law enforcement  
9 dogs for health care expenses paid by the handlers up to \$5,000 per calendar year

10	<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>
11	All Other	\$32,500	\$32,500
12			
13	<b>GENERAL FUND TOTAL</b>	<u>\$32,500</u>	<u>\$32,500</u>

15	<b>HIGHWAY FUND</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>
16	All Other	\$17,500	\$17,500
17			
18	<b>HIGHWAY FUND TOTAL</b>	<u>\$17,500</u>	<u>\$17,500</u>

20	<b>PUBLIC SAFETY, DEPARTMENT OF</b>		
21	<b>DEPARTMENT TOTALS</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>
22			
23	<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>\$42,500</b>	<b>\$42,500</b>
24	<b>HIGHWAY FUND</b>	<b>\$17,500</b>	<b>\$17,500</b>
25			
26	<b>DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS</b>	<u><b>\$60,000</b></u>	<u><b>\$60,000</b></u>

28	<b>SECTION TOTALS</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>
29			
30	<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>\$77,500</b>	<b>\$77,500</b>
31	<b>HIGHWAY FUND</b>	<b>\$17,500</b>	<b>\$17,500</b>
32			
33	<b>SECTION TOTAL - ALL FUNDS</b>	<u><b>\$95,000</b></u>	<u><b>\$95,000</b></u>

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

37 **SUMMARY**

38 This amendment replaces the bill and changes the title The amendment provides for  
39 reimbursement, up to \$5,000 per year, to the authorized handlers of retired law enforcement  
40 dogs, retired search and rescue dogs and retired corrections dogs used by the Department  
41 of Public Safety, including the State Police, the Department of Inland Fisheries and

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 782, L.D. 1234

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Wildlife and the Department of Corrections for the dogs' health care costs. The amendment also makes technical changes.

**FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**  
(See attached)





# 131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1234

LR 1286(02)

## An Act to Provide Reimbursement for Health Care Expenses of Retired State Police Law Enforcement Dogs

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

*A (H-454)*

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	\$77,500	\$77,500	\$77,500	\$77,500
Highway Fund	\$17,500	\$17,500	\$17,500	\$17,500
<b>Appropriations/Allocations</b>				
General Fund	\$77,500	\$77,500	\$77,500	\$77,500
Highway Fund	\$17,500	\$17,500	\$17,500	\$17,500

### Fiscal Detail and Notes

The bill includes General Fund appropriations and Highway Fund allocations of \$42,500 and \$17,500, respectively, beginning in fiscal year 2023-24 to reimburse authorized handlers of retired law enforcement dogs for health care expenses paid by the handlers up to \$5,000 per calendar year. The bill also includes appropriations of \$15,000 to the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife beginning in fiscal year 2023-24 to reimburse authorized handlers of retired search and rescue dogs for health care expenses. Finally, the bill includes General Fund appropriations to the Department of Corrections of \$20,000 beginning in fiscal year 2023-24 for these health care expenses.