

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 1993

Date: 3/4/26

(Filing No. S-525)

MINORITY

LABOR

Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Secretary of the Senate.

STATE OF MAINE

SENATE

132ND LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "B" to S.P. 806, L.D. 1993, "An Act to Increase the Annual Cap on Funds Assessed for the Safety Education and Training Fund"

Amend the bill in section 1 in subsection 2 in the 15th line (page 1, line 18 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "2%" and inserting the following: '1.25%'

Amend the bill by inserting after section 1 the following:

Sec. 2. Department of Labor; safety education and training program review. The Commissioner of Labor or the commissioner's designee shall perform an efficiency review of the operations and delivery of the safety education and training programs the Department of Labor provides pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 26, section 42-A to identify any duplicative efforts offered by the department and by private employers. In conducting the review, the commissioner or the commissioner's designee shall consult with relevant stakeholders to identify the safety education and training programs offered by private employers. The stakeholders consulted must include, but are not limited to, insurance carriers licensed to do workers' compensation business in the State and group and individual self-insured employers authorized to make workers' compensation payments directly to their employees. The efficiency review must be completed no later than December 31, 2026. By February 1, 2027, the commissioner shall submit a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over labor matters on the findings of the efficiency review, including any recommendations resulting from the review. After reviewing the report, the joint standing committee may report out legislation to the 133rd Legislature in 2027 to implement any recommendations contained in the report.

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

LABOR, DEPARTMENT OF

Safety Education and Training Programs 0161

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "B" to S.P. 806, L.D. 1993 (S-525)

1 Initiative: Allocates funds to the Department of Labor to support safety education and
 2 training programs for employers, owners, employees, educators and students.

3	OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2025-26	2026-27
4	All Other	\$0	\$557,500
5			
6	OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$557,500</u>
7			

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

10 **SUMMARY**

11 The bill raises the limit on the total annual amount of the assessment that supports the
 12 Department of Labor's Safety Education and Training Fund from 1% to 2% of the total of
 13 the workers' compensation benefits paid by all licensed carriers and group and individual
 14 self-insured employers during the most recent calendar year for which data is available.
 15 This amendment changes that amount to 1.25%.

16 The amendment also directs the Commissioner of Labor or the commissioner's
 17 designee to conduct an efficiency review of the operations and delivery of the safety
 18 education and training programs the Department of Labor provides to identify any
 19 duplicative efforts offered by the department and by private employers. The amendment
 20 also requires the commissioner to submit a report on the findings of the review to the joint
 21 standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over labor matters and provides
 22 the committee the authority to report out legislation to the 133rd Legislature in 2027. The
 23 amendment adds an appropriations and allocations section.

24 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**
 25 (See attached)



132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1993

LR 2690(02)

An Act to Increase the Annual Cap on Funds Assessed for the Safety Education and Training Fund

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "**B(S-525)**
 Committee: Labor
 Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

	FY 2025-26	FY 2026-27	Projections FY 2027-28	Projections FY 2028-29
Appropriations/Allocations				
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$0	\$557,500	\$557,500	\$557,500
Revenue				
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$0	\$557,500	\$557,500	\$557,500

Fiscal Detail and Notes

The bill includes an Other Special Revenue Funds allocation to the The Department of Labor (DOL), Safety Education and Training Fund of \$557,500 starting in fiscal year 2026-2027 to implement the provisions of this bill. This bill would increase the cap on the total amount that the DOL may assess to insurance carriers and group and individual group and self-insured employers to fund its safety and education program. Under current law, the cap is set at 1% of total workers' compensation benefits (exclusive of medical payments) paid by licensed insurance carriers and group and individual self-insured employers. This bill would raise the cap to 1.25%. The fiscal estimate assumes that the DOL will assess a levy equal to the cap. The fiscal estimate also assumes that the cost of conducting the efficiency review of the operations and delivery of the safety education and training programs can be absorbed within existing resources.