



# 125th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 573

LR 655(01)

An Act To Protect the Civil Rights of Citizens

**Preliminary Fiscal Impact Statement for Original Bill**

**Sponsor: Sen. Snowe-Mello of Androscoggin**

**Committee: Judiciary**

**Fiscal Note Required: Yes**

---

---

## Preliminary Fiscal Impact Statement

Current biennium cost increase - All Funds

Minor revenue increase - General Fund

### Correctional and Judicial Impact Statements

Increases the number of civil suits.

The collection of additional filing fees may also increase General Fund revenue by minor amounts.

### Fiscal Detail and Notes

The additional costs to State government can not be estimated at this time, but are expected to be significant. The Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Division of Risk Management estimates the cost of the increase in liability insurance rates needed to cover the additional claims and expenses to be \$3,000,000 per year. In addition, the Office of the Attorney General will require additional General Fund appropriations to fund one Assistant Attorney General position. It is assumed that the affected State agency would be responsible for any other fees and other awards or damages.

Additional costs to the Maine Community College System associated with this provision can not be determined at this time, however, the System has estimated the cost to defend an average of 3 cases per year to be approximately \$45,000 in staff, insurance and liability costs.