



126th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 350

LR 437(01)

An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Gambling

Preliminary Fiscal Impact Statement for Original Bill

Sponsor: Sen. Tuttle of York

Committee: Veterans and Legal Affairs

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Preliminary Fiscal Impact Statement

Potential current biennium revenue increase - General Fund

Fiscal Detail and Notes

This legislation provides that any money or thing of value owed to an individual excluded from a slot machine facility or casino may not be paid to the person but must be remitted by the licensee for deposit in the General Fund for gambling addiction services. The amount of revenue made available for this purpose will depend on the number of individuals who are excluded and have winnings forfeited. No estimate can be made at this time.

It is important to note that revenues deposited to the General Fund are, by definition, not earmarked for specific purposes. To more properly account for designating a specific use of ongoing revenues an Other Special Revenue Funds account should be established. Fortunately, in this case, such a dedicated account already exists within the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Substance Abuse. It is recommended that the bill be amended to have the described revenue deposited directly into the Gambling Addiction Prevention and Treatment Fund for the purpose of providing gambling addiction services.