



131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 3

LR 601(05)

An Act to Establish the Winter Energy Relief Payment Program to Aid Residents with High Heating Costs and to Finalize the COVID Pandemic Relief Payment Program

Fiscal Note for Senate Amendment " " to Original Bill

Sponsor: Sen. Moore of Washington

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

	FY 2022-23	FY 2023-24	FY 2024-25	Projections FY 2025-26	Projections FY 2026-27
Net Cost (Savings)					
General Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Appropriations/Allocations					
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Transfers					
General Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Fiscal Detail and Notes

This amendment changes the distribution of heating assistance from checks to fuel vouchers and changes the name of the program to the Winter Energy Relief Fuel Voucher Program. The vouchers will be for eligible households instead of individuals. The amount of allocation and the transfer from the General Fund remain at \$398,000,000. The cost of the vouchers is anticipated to be approximately \$315,000,000. The costs to design and implement a voucher system, including internal controls and verification, are expected to be significant and implementation by Maine Revenue Services in a short period of time may be difficult. As in the original bill, any balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2023-24 will be transferred to the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund.