



131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1966

LR 1847(03)

An Act to Allow Candidates for County Office to Participate in the Maine Clean Election Act

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment " "

Committee: Veterans and Legal Affairs

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Future biennium cost increase - Other Special Revenue Funds

Potential future biennium cost increase - General Fund

Fiscal Detail and Notes

This bill allows candidates for the office of district attorney to participate in the Maine Clean Elections program beginning in the 2026 election cycle. The Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices has indicated that funding to these additional candidates will require additional expenditures from the Maine Clean Election Fund of \$25,500 in fiscal year 2025-26 and \$479,600 in fiscal year 2026-27. The Commission has also indicated an estimated one-time cost of \$5,000 in fiscal year 2025-26 to upgrade the electronic qualifying contributions system to incorporate the new candidates.

Increasing the number of potential candidates who use the Maine Clean Elections program may mean expenditures from the program will exceed what is available in the fund and additional legislation will be required to increase the annual transfer from the General Fund.