



# 126th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 297

LR 224(02)

## An Act To Require Forest Rangers To Be Trained in Order To Allow Them To Carry Firearms

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment " "

Committee: Criminal Justice and Public Safety

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

### Fiscal Note

	FY 2013-14	FY 2014-15	Projections FY 2015-16	Projections FY 2016-17
<b>Net Cost (Savings)</b>				
General Fund	\$0	\$86,819	\$90,013	\$6,387
<b>Appropriations/Allocations</b>				
General Fund	\$0	\$86,819	\$90,013	\$6,387

#### Fiscal Detail and Notes

The bill includes General Fund appropriations of \$60,861 in FY 15 and will require the same in FY 16 for the costs of purchasing guns, vests and other related equipment at current state contract prices for use by Forest Rangers and certain other positions. The bill requires implementation of a training program by January 1, 2016 that requires a 64-hour course on firearms training at the Maine Criminal Justice Academy. The bill includes a General Fund appropriation of \$7,049 in FY 15 and will require the same in FY 16 for the costs of the training course. The bill will require General Fund appropriations of \$3,194 in FY 16, growing to \$6,387 in subsequent years for ongoing training. The bill includes General Fund appropriations of \$18,909 in FY 15 and will require the same in FY 16 for overtime costs associated with initial training.

It is likely that the Forest Ranger positions will be reclassified in the future due to their increased responsibilities from operating a firearm. This cost is estimated to be \$2,980 for each of the 55 Forest Ranger positions, totaling \$163,900.