



132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 2099

LR 2615(01)

An Act to Amend Certain Eligibility Requirements for Secondary Students Receiving State Subsidies for Postsecondary Courses

Preliminary Fiscal Impact Statement for Original Bill

Sponsor: Rep. Sargent of York

Committee: Education and Cultural Affairs

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Preliminary Fiscal Impact Statement

Limits participation to keep pace with available funding

Fiscal Detail and Notes

This bill imposes a lifetime cap on the number of courses for which secondary students and career and technical education students enrolled in a designated early college career pathway may receive a state subsidy. The bill also restricts state subsidy for postsecondary courses to students who are Maine residents and meet public tuition criteria. The eligibility policy of the Department of Education (department) currently includes these provisions; the bill seeks to codify existing policy in statute. These provisions are intended to lower the number of postsecondary courses for which secondary and early college students may receive a state subsidy. There is no new funding provided in the bill because the amount of the state subsidy is included in the department's total cost of education. However, demand for these courses is likely to continue to outpace available funding, even with the restrictions imposed by this bill.

Any additional costs to the department to implement the other requirements of this bill, including the annual determination of a process for reimbursing postsecondary courses, can be absorbed within existing resources.