

Vermont Legislative Joint Fiscal Office

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FISCAL NOTE

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H.424 An Act Relating to the Commission on Act 250: the Next 50 Years

This bill would establish a Commission on Act 250 to be convened during October 2017 and to be dissolved on February 15, 2019. The bill would direct the Commission to hold seven public meetings throughout Vermont and would authorize further meetings as needed. Reimbursement would be authorized for up to ten total meetings. Legislative members would be reimbursed from the Legislative budget, a General Fund expense. Other Commission members who are not State employees would be reimbursed from the Natural Resources Board budget, which could be a General Fund or an Act 250 Permit Fund expense. The Commission would be required to submit a report to the Legislature's natural resources committees on or before January 15, 2019.

The bill would also authorize the Legislative Council to retain a facilitator to attend all meetings of the Commission on Act 250 and to assist the Commission in working towards drafting a report to the Legislature. \$50,000 would be appropriated to the Legislative Council in FY 2018 to pay for the facilitator. The bill does not specify from what funding source the \$50k would be appropriated. The Act 250 Permit fund carried forward a balance of approximately \$480k from FY 2016. This bill could be funded from a portion of that balance, thereby reducing potential General Fund pressure in FY 2018.

Estimated FY 2018 Cost

Facilitator	\$50,000
4 Legislative Commission members	\$8,600
6 Public Commission members	\$7,400
Total FY 2018	\$66,000