

OPEGA Biennial Work Plan for 2017-2018 (Status updated as of 3-21-17)

Project Topic	Resp Dept	Phase	General Scope	Detailed Scope Avail?
In Progress				
Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority	NNEPRA	Planning and Field Work	Board oversight of NNEPRA operations and decisions; NNEPRA reported performance metrics; and contractual relationships with key partners.	No
State Lottery	Dept. of Adm. And Financial Services, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations	Reporting	Governance and oversight of State Lottery; Lottery considerations for decisions on game offerings and marketing including whether particular demographic or geographic groups are targeted; how lottery winnings are considered when determining eligibility for public benefits; and analysis of lottery tickets purchases and winnings by county.	Yes
Tax Expenditure Evaluation: Employment Tax Increment Financing	Dept. of Economic and Community Development	Fieldwork	Fiscal impacts, effectiveness of program design; extent to which program is achieving intended purposes and goals; extent to which those benefiting are the intended beneficiaries; administration of the program; and extent to which program is coordinated with, complementary to or duplicative of other programs with similar purposes and goals.	Yes
Tax Expenditure Evaluation: Pine Tree Development Zones	Dept. of Economic and Community Development	Fieldwork/ Reporting	Fiscal impacts, effectiveness of program design; extent to which program is achieving intended purposes and goals; extent to which those benefiting are the intended beneficiaries; administration of the program; and extent to which program is coordinated with, complementary to or duplicative of other programs with similar purposes and goals.	Yes
Tax Expenditure Evaluation: Maine Capital Investment Credit	Maine Revenue Services	Planning and Preliminary Research	Fiscal impacts, effectiveness of program design; extent to which program is achieving intended purposes and goals; extent to which those benefiting are the intended beneficiaries; administration of the program; and extent to which program is coordinated with, complementary to or duplicative of other programs with similar purposes and goals.	No

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Tax Expenditure Evaluation: Reimbursement for Business Equipment Tax Exemption to Municipalities (BETE)	Dept. of Economic and Community Development	Planning and Preliminary Research	Fiscal impacts, effectiveness of program design; extent to which program is achieving intended purposes and goals; extent to which those benefiting are the intended beneficiaries; administration of the program; and extent to which program is coordinated with, complementary to or duplicative of other programs with similar purposes and goals.	No
Tax Expenditure Evaluation: Reimbursement for Taxes Paid on Certain Business Property (BETR)	Dept. of Economic and Community Development	Planning and Preliminary Research	Fiscal impacts, effectiveness of program design; extent to which program is achieving intended purposes and goals; extent to which those benefiting are the intended beneficiaries; administration of the program; and extent to which program is coordinated with, complementary to or duplicative of other programs with similar purposes and goals.	No
Special Project: Tax Expenditure Expedited Reviews - Tax Fairness	Various	Planning and Preliminary Research	Provide Taxation Committee with information for conducting expedited reviews to include: description of the tax policy under review, description of each related tax expenditure and how the benefit is distributed; intended beneficiaries, fiscal impact and legislative history.	No

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Completed				
DHHS Licensing and Regulation of Child Care Providers	Dept of Health & Human Services		Extent to which there is timely and effective investigation and action on reports of child care licensing violations or child abuse and neglect at child care centers; extent to which there is timely notification to current and prospective child care clients (parents) of allegations and findings against child cares.	Yes
Tax Expenditure Evaluation: New Markets Capital Investment Credit	Finance Authority of Maine		Fiscal impacts, effectiveness of program design; extent to which program is achieving intended purposes and goals; extent to which those benefiting are the intended beneficiaries; administration of the program; and extent to which program is coordinated with, complementary to or duplicative of other programs with similar purposes and goals.	Yes
Suspended				
None				
Planned				
DHHS Audit Functions	Dept. of Health and Human Services		Effectiveness of DHHS audit functions in identifying and addressing fraud, waste and abuse in programs administered by the Department.	No
Independent Living Services (multiple programs)	Dept. of Labor, Dept of Health and Human Services, Other		Alignment of programs and resources with needs of eligible client population; efficient use of resources; compliance with State and federal program and funding requirements; coordination among programs; effectiveness of programs and services in support of independent living.	No
Public Utilities Commission	Public Utilities Commission		Assessment of extent to which the PUC independently assesses risks and costs associated with ensuring safe, reasonable and adequate electrical services.	No
The Fund for A Healthy Maine	Dept. of Health and Human Services		Grantees' management and actual use of Fund for a Healthy Maine funds; portion of FHM funds used for administration; extent to which grantees are dependent on FHM funds.	No