

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS
Margaret Rotundo, Senate Chair **Drew Gattine, House Chair**

Justin Purvis, Committee Clerk: 287-1635 afa@legislature.maine.gov

LD 210 "An Act Making Unified Appropriations and Allocations from the General Fund and Other Funds for the Expenditures of State Government and Changing Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 2025, June 30, 2026 and June 30, 2027"

BIENNIAL BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING SCHEDULE

Corrected 01-30-25 5:00 pm (crossing out more "ghost" programs)

The proposed budget initiatives and language may be viewed on the Revisor of Statute's website:

<https://legislature.maine.gov/12510>

IMPORTANT: ZOOM TESTIMONY SIGN UP AND WRITTEN TESTIMONY SUBMITTAL WILL BE BROKEN UP BY SCHEDULED START TIME SO PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU SIGN UP OR SUBMIT YOUR TESTIMONY FOR THE DAY AND TIME THAT INCLUDES THE PROGRAM OR LANGUAGE RELATED TO YOUR TESTIMONY

Testifying Over Zoom: Submit any written testimony and sign to get a Zoom link through the portal on the Legislative website using the link shown below. (If you are starting from the Legislative home page, click on the "Testimony Submission" box at the bottom of the page). You must register to testify at least 30 minutes prior to the start of the hearing block to ensure that you will be called on by the Committee Chair. Once you have registered, you will receive additional information on acquiring a Zoom meeting link. If you do not receive those instructions or a link and have tried via multiple browsers, contact the webmaster at the email address shown below. During the hearing when it is approaching your turn to speak, the Chair will call your name and the Committee Clerk will move you from attendee to panelist. Please have your video on and make sure your name is correct so that the Chair knows you have been moved over and are ready to be called on. When you are done speaking, please exit the zoom meeting and watch the remainder of the hearing through the streaming portal (see below - just before the top of the schedule for how to access the stream).

Testifying in Person: Separate sign-up sheets for each hearing block shown in the detailed schedule below will be available either in the committee room (Statehouse Room 228) OR at a table just outside the committee room 1/2 hour before the hearing block. You may sign up only yourself or someone who requires accommodation (**please, no "block sign-ups"**). Bring 40 copies of any written testimony you have not submitted through the Legislative Website. Note: If the committee room is full, you will be asked to wait and listen to the hearing in a designated "overflow room" until you are about to be called to testify or when staff lets you know that seating became available.

[Zoom sign-up and Testimony Submittal https://www.mainelegislature.org/testimony/](https://www.mainelegislature.org/testimony/)
webmaster_lio@legislature.maine.gov

Persons with special needs wishing to participate in a Legislative hearing who require accommodations should notify the Legislative Information Office as soon as possible: 207-287-1692, FAX 207-287-1580, lio@legislature.maine.gov.

You may access the livestream (or archive) by going to the date of the committee meeting on the Legislature's Calendar and clicking on the microphone

<https://legislature.maine.gov/Calendar/>

ACTUAL START TIMES MAY BE DELAYED DUE TO TECHNICAL ISSUES OR PRIOR HEARING BLOCKS TAKING LONGER THAN PLANNED

10:00 AM Monday, February 3, 2025 (AFA Only)
(Note: Department & Agency testimony will be on all categories within this block before public testimony)
To be heard by the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs:
GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND DEBT SERVICE
Treasurer of the State, Office of
Debt Service
<i>Language Part "DDDD" Allows the Debt Service-Treasury program funding to carry over in FY26 and FY27</i>
GENERAL FISCAL
Administrative and Financial Services, Department of
Department and Agencies - Statewide
<i>Language Part "P" Transfers \$42,393,017 from the interest earnings on the Federal Expenditures Fund - ARP State Fiscal Recovery Fund and the Federal Expenditures - ARP Fund to the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund.</i>
<i>Language Part "Q" Transfers cash balances in various Department of Administrative and Financial Services accounts to the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund in fiscal year 2025-26</i>
<i>Language Part "R" Increases the budgeted attrition rate for the 2026-2027 biennium from 1.6% to 5% for judicial branch and executive branch departments and agencies.</i>
<i>Language Part "ZZZ" suspends the appropriation limit for fiscal year 2025-26.</i>
LEGISLATURE
Law and Legislative Reference Library
Law and Legislative Reference Library
Legislature
Citizen Trade Policy Commission
Interstate Cooperation, Commission on

Legislative Apportionment Commission

Legislature

State House and Capitol Park Commission

Study Commissions – Funding

Uniform State Laws - Commission On

Program Evaluation and Government Accountability, Office of
Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability

State House Preservation and Maintenance, Reserve Fund for
Reserve Fund for State House Preservation and Maintenance

11:00 AM Monday, February 3, 2025 (TAX) Department Testimony

To be held in conjunction with the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation:

DEPARTMENT AND AGENCY TESTIMONY ON ALL PROGRAMS AND LANGUAGE PARTS NOTED IN PUBLIC TESTIMONY LISTING SHOWN BELOW

1:00 PM Monday, February 3, 2025 (TAX) Public Testimony

To be held in conjunction with the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation:

Property Tax Review, State Board of
Property Tax Review - State Board of

Administrative and Financial Services, Department of

Bureau of Revenue Services Fund

County Tax Reimbursement

Elderly Tax Deferral Program

Homestead Property Tax Exemption Reimbursement

Maine Board of Tax Appeals

Mandate-BETE-Reimburse Municipalities

~~Property Tax Relief Fund for Maine Residents~~

Property Tax Stabilization

Property Tax Stabilization Mandate

Renewable Energy Facilities Property Tax Exemption

Revenue Services – Bureau of

Snow Grooming Property Tax Exemption Reimbursement

Tree Growth Tax Reimbursement

Unorganized Territory Education and Services Fund – Finance

Veterans Tax Reimbursement

Veterans' Organizations Tax Reimbursement

Waste Facility Tax Reimbursement

Language Part "E" Increases the cigarette excise tax rate by 50 mills, changing the rate per pack of 20 cigarettes from \$2 to \$3, and the rate per cigarette from 10¢ to 15¢. This cigarette tax rate increase also causes the tobacco products tax rate to increase by an equivalent amount automatically under 36 M.R.S. § 4403(5).

Language Part "F" Reduces the cannabis excise tax rates by one-third and concurrently increases the sales tax on adult use cannabis to 14%. It also changes the adult use cannabis sales tax and excise tax transfers to the Adult Use Cannabis Public Health and Safety and Municipal Opt-in Fund from 12% to 9%.

Language Part "G" Makes changes to the sales and use tax and service provider tax provisions.

Language Part "H" Establishes a phase-out of the pension deduction for nonmilitary pensions under the income tax based on the income of the taxpayer.

Language Part "I" Continues authorization for each individual tax expenditure provided by statute except where specifically changed in the enacted budget. (Testimony will also be taken on reports completed pursuant to MRS Title 3 sections 999 and 1000.)

Treasurer of the State, Office of

Disproportionate Tax Burden Fund

Maliseet Sales Tax Fund

Passamaquoddy Sales Tax Fund

Penobscot Sales Tax Fund

~~Property Tax Relief for Maine Residents~~

State – Municipal Revenue Sharing

1:00 PM Tuesday, February 4, 2025 (CJPS)

To be held in conjunction with the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety:

Corrections, Department of

Administration – Corrections

Adult Community Corrections

Bolduc Correctional Facility

Capital Construction / Repairs / Improvements – Corrections

Correctional Center

Correctional Medical Services Fund

Corrections Food

Corrections Fuel

Corrections Industries

County Jail Operations Fund

Departmentwide – Overtime

Downeast Correctional Facility

Justice – Planning, Projects & Statistics

Juvenile Community Corrections

Long Creek Youth Development Center

Maine State Prison
Mountain View Youth Development Center
Office of Victim Services
Parole Board
<i>Language Part "J-3 & J-4" Authorizes the Maine Governmental Facilities Authority to issue additional securities up \$25,000,000 to pay for costs associated with correctional facilities</i>
<i>Language Part "Z" Authorizes sums paid by the United States Marshals Service to be deposited into client benefit welfare accounts within the Department of Corrections</i>
<i>Language Part "AA" Authorizes the Department of Corrections to transfer funds in Personal Services, All Other or Capital Expenditure line categories between accounts within the same fund by financial order for the purpose of paying departmental overtime expenses in the fiscal year of 2025-26 and 2026-27.</i>
<i>Language Part "BB" Allows the Commissioner of the Department of Corrections to review the current organizational structure to improve organizational efficiency and authorizes the State Budget Officer to transfer positions and available balances by financial order.</i>
<i>Language Part "CC" Authorizes the Department of Corrections to transfer, by financial order, unobligated balance from Personal Services to the All Other line category in the Long Creek Youth Development program in each year of the biennium.</i>
<i>Language Part "DD" Transfers \$3,661,559 from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the Department of Corrections, Administration - Corrections, Other Special Revenue Funds account for one-time implementation costs of the offender management system.</i>
Community College System, Maine
Regional Fire Service Training
Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management, Department of
Administration – Maine Emergency Management Agency
Emergency Response Operations
Stream Gaging Cooperative Program
Fire Protection Services Commission, Maine
Firefighter Safety Equipment Fund
Maine Fire Protection Services Commission
Public Safety, Department of
Administration – Public Safety
Background Checks – Certified Nursing Assistants
Capitol Police, Bureau of
Computer Crimes
Consolidated Emergency Communications
Criminal Justice Academy

Drug Enforcement Agency
 Emergency Medical Services
 Fire Marshall – Office of
 Highway Safety DPS
 Licensing and Enforcement - Public Safety
 Safe Homes Program Fund

Language Part "UUU" Increases the number of chief's majors that may be appointed by the Commissioner of Public Safety

Language Part "VVV" Increases the fees charged to an individual applying for or renewing a permit to carry a concealed handgun and increases the portion of the collected fees paid to the Treasurer of State.

Language Part "XXX" Transfers \$2,400,000 from the Department of Public Safety, Administration-Public Safety, Other Special Revenue Funds account to the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund.

10:00 AM Wednesday, February 5, 2025 (HED) Department and Agency Testimony

To be held in conjunction with the Joint Standing Committee on Housing and Economic Development

DEPARTMENT AND AGENCY TESTIMONY ON ALL PROGRAMS AND LANGUAGE PARTS NOTED IN PUBLIC TESTIMONY LISTING SHOWN BELOW

1:00 PM Wednesday, February 5, 2025 (HED) Public Testimony

To be held in conjunction with the Joint Standing Committee on Housing and Economic Development

Administrative and Financial Services, Department of

Language Part "QQ" Directs a portion of the real estate transfer tax to the General Fund in fiscal years 2025-26 and 2026-27.

Centers for Innovation
 Centers for Innovation

Development Foundation, Maine
 Development Foundation

Downeast Institute for Applied Marine Research and Education
 Downeast Institute for Applied Marine Research and Education

Economic and Community Development, Department of
 Administration – Economic and Community Development
 Applied Technology Development Center System
 Business Development
 Communities for Maine’s Future Fund
 Community Development Block Grant Program
 Housing Opportunity Program
 International Commerce
 Leadership and Entrepreneurial Development Program

Maine Coworking Development Program
 Maine Economic Development Evaluation Fund
 Maine Economic Growth Council
 Maine Small Business and Entrepreneurship Commission
 Maine State Film Office
 Municipal Grant Fund
 Office of Innovation
 Office of Tourism
 Renewable Energy Resources Fund
 Rural Workforce Recruitment and Retention Grant Fund
 Social Equity Program

Finance Authority of Maine

Educational Opportunity Tax Credit Marketing Fund
 FHM - Health Education Centers
 Foreign Credentialing and Skills Recognition Revolving Loan Program Fund
 Health Care Provider Loan Repayment Program
 Small Enterprise Growth Fund

Housing Authority, Maine State

Emergency Housing Matching Grant Program Fund
 Emergency Housing Relief Fund Program
 Housing Authority – State
 Housing First - MSHA
 Housing Subsidy Program for Homeless Students
 Low-Income Home Energy Assistance – MSHA
 Maine Energy, Housing and Economic Recovery Program
 Shelter Operating Subsidy

Language Part "PP" Transfers \$3,000,000 from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the Maine State Housing Authority, Housing Authority - State, Other Special Revenue Funds account to support a manufactured home and mobile home park preservation and assistance program.

Maine Office of Community Affairs

Maine Office of Community Affairs

Language Part "D" Expands the Maine Office of Community Affairs by amending statute and transferring several state programs into the office.

Maine Redevelopment Land Bank Authority

Maine Redevelopment Land Bank Fund

Maine-Island of Ireland Trade Commission

Maine-Island of Ireland Trade Commission

Professional and Financial Regulation, Department of Manufactured Housing Board
Public Safety, Department of Division of Building Codes and Standards
10:00 AM Thursday, February 6, 2025 (ENR)
To be held in conjunction with the Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources:
Administrative and Financial Services, Department of Solid Waste Management Fund
Environmental Protection, Department of Administration – Environmental Protection Air Quality Board of Environmental Protection Fund Eelgrass and Salt Marsh Vegetation Mapping Fund Lake Water Quality Restoration and Protection Fund Land Application Contaminant Monitoring Fund Land Resources Maine Environmental Protection Fund Performance Partnership Grant Remediation and Waste Management Water Quality
<i>Language Part "MM" Increases the cap on the amount that can be transferred from accounts within the Department of Environmental Protection to the Board of Environmental Protection Fund</i>
<i>Language Part "NN" Transfers \$1,376,000 from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund Maine Ground and Surface Water Clean-up and Response Fund, Other Special Revenue Funds account to support Capital Expenditures within the program</i>
New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission Maine Joint Environmental Training Coordinating Committee
Saco River Corridor Commission Saco River Corridor Commission
St. Croix International Waterway Commission St. Croix International Waterway Commission
University of Maine, Board of Trustees of the Casco Bay Estuary Project – University of Southern Maine

1:00 PM Thursday, February 6, 2025 (LAB)

To be held in conjunction with the Joint Standing Committee on Labor

Labor, Department of

Administration – Bureau of Labor Standards

Administration – Labor

Blind and Visually Impaired – Division for the

Employment Security Services

Employment Services Activity

Labor Relations Board

Maine Apprenticeship Program

Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance Fund

Regulation and Enforcement

Rehabilitation Services

Safety Education and Training Programs

State Workforce Investment Board

Workforce Research

Language Part "OOO" Establishes the Targeted Workforce Investment program within the Department of Labor.

Language Part "PPP" Makes changes to statute related to the Unemployment Insurance Commission and the Division of Administrative Hearings and amends statute to add the Bureau of Paid Family and Medical Leave as a bureau within the Department of Labor

Part "QQQ" Adds an Associate Commissioner position to those appointed by the Commissioner of Labor.

Part "RRR" Increases the level of funding provided to the Communications Equipment Fund through the State Universal Service Fund of the Public Utilities Commission

Professional and Financial Regulation, Department of

Administrative Services - Professional and Financial Regulation

Engineers - State Board of Licensure for Professional

Office of Professional and Occupational Regulation

Retirement System, Maine Public Employees

Retirement System – Retirement Allowance Fund

Treasurer of State, Office of

Kim Wallace Adaptive Equipment Loan Program

University of Maine System, Board of Trustees of the

New Ventures Maine

Workers' Compensation Board

Administration – Workers’ Compensation Board

Employment Rehabilitation Program

Workers’ Compensation Board

PART "YYY" Amends the provision of law governing the Workers' Compensation Board Administrative Fund to ensure the board will be able to fund expenditures allocated by the Legislature and maintain its reserve.

10:00 AM Friday, February 7, 2025 (EDU)

To be held in conjunction with the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs:

HIGHER EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AGENCIES

Arts Commission, Maine

Arts – Administration

Arts – General Grants Program

Arts – Sponsored Program

Cultural Affairs Council, Maine State

New Century Program Fund

State of Maine Bicentennial Celebration

Finance Authority of Maine

Doctors for Maine's Future Scholarship Fund

FHM - Dental Education

Student Financial Assistance Programs

Language Part "CCCC" Limits the use of Maine State Grant awards to students attending Maine institutions of public higher education except under limited circumstances.

Historic Preservation Commission, Maine

Historic Commercial Rehabilitation Fund

Historic Preservation Commission

Historic Preservation Revolving Fund

Historical Society, Maine

Historical Society

Humanities Council, Maine

Humanities Council

Library, Maine State

Administration – Library

Blind and Visually Impaired News Access Fund

Imagination Library of Maine Program

Maine Public Library Fund

Maine State Library
Statewide Library Information System
Museum, Maine State
Maine State Museum
Maine State Museum - Operating Fund
Research and Collection – Museum
Public Broadcasting Corporation, Maine
Maine Public Broadcasting Corporation
Community College System, Maine
Maine Community College System - Board of Trustees
MCCS Free Community College - 2 Enrollment Years
<i>Language Part "EEEE" Repeals outdated language related to tuition waivers and codifies and makes permanent the Maine Free Community College Program.</i>
Maritime Academy, Maine
Maine Maritime Academy - Debt Service
Maine Maritime Academy Scholarship Fund - Casino
Maritime Academy – Operations
Maine Maritime Academy - Schooner Bowdoin
University of Maine, Board of Trustees of the
Debt Service – University of Maine System
Educational & General Activities – UMS
Labor and Community Education Center
Maine Economic Improvement Fund
University of Maine Scholarship Fund
1:00 PM Friday, February 7, 2025 (EDU)
To be held in conjunction with the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs:
CHARTER SCHOOLS AND DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Charter School Commission, Maine
Maine Charter School Commission
Education, State Board of
State Board of Education
Education, Department of
Adult Education
Charter School Program

Child Development Services
Climate Education Professional Development Pilot Program Fund
Community Schools Program
Criminal History Record Check Fund
Digital Literacy Fund
Early Childhood Special Education Pathways Pilot Project
Early Childhood Infrastructure
Education in Unorganized Territory
ELA and Workforce Training
FHM – School Breakfast Program
Fund for the Efficient Delivery of Educational Services
General Purpose Aid for Local Schools (GPA)
Higher Ed Interpersonal Violence Advisory Commission Fund
Higher Education and Educator Support Services
Innovative Instructional and Tutoring Grant Program Fund
Innovative Teaching and Learning
Leadership Team
Learning Systems Team
Learning Through Technology
Local Foods
Maine Climate Corps Prog - Maine Commission for Community Svc
Maine Commission for Community Service
Maine HIV Prevention Education Program
Maine School Safety Center
Maine Service Fellows Program (Maine Commission for Community Service)
National Board Certification Salary Supplemental Fund
National Board Certification Scholarship Fund
Obesity and Chronic Disease Fund
Office of Innovation
Office of Workforce Development and Innovative Pathways
Preschool Special Education
Retired Teachers Group Life Insurance
Retired Teachers' Health Insurance
School and Student Supports
School Facilities
School Finance and Operations
School Meal Equipment and Program Improvement Fund
Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematical Council
Special Services Team
State Mandate Reimbursement - Collective Bargaining
Teacher Retirement

Language Part "C" Establishes the Total Cost of Education from Kindergarten to Grade 12, the state contribution, the annual target state share percentage, and the mill expectation for the local contribution for fiscal year 2025-26

Language Part "EE" Directs a portion of fees collected for educator credentialing to cover the annual cost of New England Board of Higher Education dues.

Language Part "HH" Changes the name of the Learning Systems Team program to the Federal Programs Team .

Language Part "II" Transfers \$45,000,000 from the Education Stabilization Fund, Other Special Revenue Funds account and \$2,214,574 from the Fund for the Efficient Delivery of Educational Services, Other Special Revenue Funds account to the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund in fiscal year 2025-26

Language Part "JJ" Lapses \$10,000,000 of unencumbered balance forward from the Department of Education, General Purpose Aid for Local Schools, General Fund account to the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund in fiscal year 2025-26.

Language Part "KK" Transfers \$21,000,000 in unencumbered balance forward from the General Purpose Aid for Local Schools program to the Preschool Special Education Program Fund within the Department of Education.

1:00 PM Tuesday, February 11, 2025 (JUD)

To be held in conjunction with the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary:

Attorney General, Department of

Administration – Attorney General

Chief Medical Examiner – Office of

Civil Rights

District Attorneys Salaries

FHM – Attorney General

Human Services Division

Mass Violence Care Fund

Victims’ Compensation Board

Maine Recovery Fund

Language Part "X" Updates the fee for certain external examinations conducted by nonsalaried medical examiners and nonsalaried medicolegal death investigators and eliminates the fees currently paid at the OCME’s discretion. (Initial version of the hearing schedule had the incorrect summary)

Human Rights Commission, Maine

Human Rights Commission – Regulation

Indian Tribal-State Commission, Maine

Maine Indian Tribal-State Commission

Public Defense Services, Maine Commission on

Maine Commission on Public Defense Services

Language Part "KKK" Authorizes the Maine Commission on Public Defense Services to carry any remaining balance in the Personal Services line category for fiscal years 2025-26 and 2026-27 and allows that program to move Personal Services to All Other in order to fund contractual services that may be needed if vacancies occur. (Initial version of the hearing schedule had the incorrect summary)

Judicial Department

Courts – Supreme, Superior and District

Judicial - Debt Service

Maine Civil Legal Services Fund

Language Part "AAAA" Authorizes the Judicial Branch to transfer Personal Services to All Other in order to fund a market pay study.

Language Part "FFFF" Provides for a raise of 3% for judges and justices of the state courts in fiscal years 2025-26 and 2026-27

Pine Tree Legal Assistance

Legal Assistance

3:00 pm Tuesday, February 11, 2025 (HHS)

To be held in conjunction with the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services:

NON-DHHS DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES

Administrative and Financial Services, Department of

Developmental Services Oversight and Advisory Board

Maine Developmental Disabilities Council

Attorney General, Office of

Maine Recovery Fund

Children’s Trust Incorporated (Board of Maine)

Maine Children’s Trust Incorporated

Disability Rights Maine

Disability Rights Maine

Executive Department – Office of the Governor

Ombudsman Program

Hospice Council, Maine

Maine Hospice Council

Maine Children's Cabinet Early Childhood Advisory Council

Maine Children's Cabinet Early Childhood Advisory Council

10:00 am Wednesday, February 12, 2025 (HHS)**To be held in conjunction with the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services:****HOSPITALS, PHYSICIANS, PHARMACIES & AMBULANCE SERVICES**

Health and Human Services, Department of

Medical Care – Payments to Providers (Baseline)

Medical Care – Payments to Providers: Annualizes prior biennium adjustments resulting from hospital-related in PL 2023 c. 643 (p. A-355)

Medical Care – Payments to Providers: Reduces funding to reflect rate changes for laboratory services (p. A-356)

Medical Care – Payments to Providers: Reduces funding to transition reimbursement of hospital professional costs at certain hospital-based practices (p. A-356)

Medical Care – Payments to Providers: Provides funding to increase MaineCare pharmacy dispensing fees (p. A-357)

Medical Care – Payments to Providers: Adjust funding to reflect a per prescription assessment on in-state pharmacy providers (p. A-357)

Medical Care – Payments to Providers: Provides funding to increase MaineCare reimbursement for ambulance services (p. A-357)

Medical Care – Payments to Providers: Adjusts funding to institute a tax on ambulance services (p. A-357)

*Language Part "SS" Establishes a \$0.70 cents per pharmacy prescription assessment on pharmacy providers.**Language Part "TT" Establishes a tax on ambulance providers of 6%. Funds must be credited to the Department of Health and Human Services to be used for MaineCare provider payments.**Language Part "WW" Allows the department to assess a fee on Maine hospitals based on the number of inpatient beds, up to a total assessment collection of \$1,800,000 per fiscal year, to support Health Information Technology initiatives. It also establishes the Health Information Technology fund to collect and disperse these fees.***1:00 pm Wednesday, February 12, 2025 (HHS)****To be held in conjunction with the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services:****DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION, LICENSING, MAINECARE & RATE SETTING**

Health and Human Services, Department of

Data, Research and Vital Statistics

Department of Health and Human Services Central Operations

Departmentwide

Division of Licensing and Certification

Medical Care – Payments to Providers: Funding to reflect increases in MaineCare costs and enrollment (p. A-353)

Medical Care – Payments to Providers: Adjusts funding within the MaineCare pharmacy program to reflect drug rebates received annually (p. A-354)

Medical Care – Payments to Providers: Adjusts funding to better align with the new consolidated structure of non-administrative MaineCare appropriations and allocations (p. A-355)

Medical Care – Payments to Providers: Adjusts funding as a result of the increase in the state share of the blended Federal Medicaid Assistance Percentage (p. A-356)

Office of Advocacy

Office of MaineCare Services

Language Part "UU" Consolidates statutory language that relates to the adjustment of MaineCare reimbursement into the MaineCare rate reform statute under 22 M.R.S.A. 3173-J, and stipulates that such adjustments are subject to available appropriations.

Language Part "XX" Clarifies the licensing terms and sets licensing fees for agencies that provide services to adults with certain conditions.

Language Part "ZZ" Authorizes the Department of Health and Human Services to transfer available Personal Services balances to All Other in the Disproportionate Share - Dorothea Dix Psychiatric Center program, the Disproportionate Share - Riverview Psychiatric Center program and the Riverview Psychiatric Center programs.

Language Part "AAA" Authorizes the Department of Health and Human Services to available All Other balances from any account within the Department of Health and Human Services, excluding balances in the IV-E Foster Care/Adoption Assistance and State funded Foster Care/Adoption Assistance programs for the purpose of the information system modernization project in the Office of Aging and Disability Services

Language Part "BBB" Authorizes the Department of Health and Human Services to transfer appropriations within the Office of Child and Family Services related to the cost of administering the child welfare program.

Language Part "CCC" Authorizes the Department to transfer available balances of Personal Services appropriations to All Other in the Office for Family Independence program and the Office for Family Independence – District program.

Language Part "DDD" allows the Office for Family Independence program to carry up to \$1,217,885 to meet technology development and testing obligations, as required by Public Law 2023, chapter 412.

Language Part "EEE-1" Allows the Department to transfer funds that are available as part of the increased 10% Federal Medical Assistance Percentage for MaineCare home and community-based services per the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, Public Law 117-2, Section 9817 between specified programs.

Language Part "EEE-2 Allows the Department to transfer funds between the Medical Care - Payments to Providers program, Home and Community Based Services - ARP Savings Other Special Revenue Funds account and the Office of MaineCare Services program, Home and Community Based Services Admin - ARP Savings Other Special Revenue Funds account within the Department of Health and Human Services.

Language Part "FFF" Allows the transfer from the unencumbered balance forward to the All Other line category in the Office of MaineCare Services program, General Fund to be used for the Medicaid Enterprise System modernization project

Language Part "GGG" authorizes the Department of Health and Human Services to transfer available balances of appropriations between the MaineCare General Fund accounts for the 2026-2027 biennium.

Language Part "HHH" Lapses \$1,500,000 from the Maine Background Check Program, Other Special Revenue Funds account to the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund in fiscal year 2025-26

Language Part "III" Authorizes the Department of Health and Human Services to adopt emergency rules to implement any provisions of this Act over which it has specific authority that has not been addressed by some other Part of the Act without the necessity of demonstrating that immediate adoption is necessary to avoid a threat to public health, safety or welfare.

10:00 AM Thursday, February 13, 2025 (HHS)

(Note: Department testimony will be on both categories within this block before public testimony)

CHILDREN’S SERVICES

Health and Human Services, Department of

Child Care Services

Child Support

Children's Health Insurance Program

Early Childhood Consultation Program

Head Start

Homeless Youth Program

IV-E Foster Care/Adoption Assistance

Maine Children's Cancer Research Fund

Medical Care – Payments to Providers Funding for final rates for Therapeutic Foster Care and New Therapeutic Intensive Homes (p. A-354)

Mental Health Services – Child Medicaid

Mental Health Services – Children

Office of Child and Family Services – Central

Office of Child and Family Services – District

~~Special Children’s Services~~

State-Funded Foster Care/Adoption Assistance

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Health and Human Services, Department of

Crisis Outreach Program

Developmental Services – Community

Developmental Services Waiver - MaineCare

Developmental Services Waiver – Supports

Lifespan Waiver

Medicaid Services – Developmental Services

Medical Care – Payments to Providers: Funding for agency home supports in Section 21, Home and Community Benefits for Members with Intellectual Disabilities or Autism Spectrum Disorder (p. A-355)

Medical Care – Payments to Providers: Reduces funding for efficiencies achieved under the department's rule under Section 21 Home and Community Benefits for Members with Intellectual Disabilities or Autism Spectrum Disorder (p. A-356)

Residential Treatment Facilities Assessment

1:00 PM Thursday, February 13, 2025 (HHS)

(Note: Department testimony will be on all categories within this block before public testimony)

SOCIAL SERVICES

Health and Human Services, Department of

Community Services Block Grant

Multicultural Services

Purchased Social Services

PUBLIC HEALTH

Health and Human Services, Department of

Aids Lodging House

Breast Cancer Services Special Program Fund

Drinking Water Enforcement

Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention

Maine School Oral Health Fund

Maine Water Well Drilling Program

Maternal and Child Health

Maternal and Child Health Block Grant Match

Office of Violence Prevention

Plumbing – Control Over

Prescription Drug Academic Detailing

Private Well Safe Drinking Water Fund

Rape Crisis Control

Universal Childhood Immunization Program

Language Part "RR" Increases the per gallon fee, on manufacturers or wholesalers of paint sold in the State from \$0.25 to \$0.75 to support the Lead Poison Prevention Fund.

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

Health and Human Services, Department of

Additional Support for Persons in Retraining and Employment

Disability Determination - Division of

Food Supplement Administration

General Assistance – Reimbursement to Cities & Towns

~~Medical Care – Payments to Providers: Funding to annualize funds received in PL 2021 c. 461 (p. A-365)~~

Office for Family Independence

Office for Family Independence - District

State Supplement to Federal Supplemental Security Income

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

Language Part "VV" Repeals the hardship exception that allows access to state-funded SNAP benefits and state-funded TANF benefits for individuals who have obtained proper work documentation but are unemployed.

10:00 AM Friday, February 14, 2025 (HHS)

(Note: Department testimony will be on all categories within this block before public testimony)

ELDER SERVICES & DUALY ELIGIBLE MEMBERS

Health and Human Services, Department of

Long Term Care - Office of Aging and Disability Services

Long Term Care and PNMI

Low-Cost Drugs to Maine's Elderly

Maine Rx Plus Program

Medical Care – Payments to Providers Funding for the annual Medicare Part D rate increase (p. A-355)

Nursing Facilities

Office of Aging and Disability Services Adult Protective Services

Office of Aging and Disability Services Central Office

PNMI Room and Board

SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER AND ADULT MENTAL HEALTH

Health and Human Services, Department of

Bridging Rental Assistance Program

Consent Decree

Disproportionate Share – Dorothea Dix Psychiatric Center

Disproportionate Share – Riverview Psychiatric Center

Dorothea Dix Psychiatric Center

Driver Education & Evaluation Program - Office of Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services

Forensic Services

Housing First Program

Mental Health Services – Community

Mental Health Services – Community Medicaid

Medical Care – Payments to Providers: Funding to annualize the investment in new mobile crisis rate and services (p. A-354)

Medical Care – Payments to Providers: Funding to annualize funds received for psychiatric residential treatment facility services (p. A-354)

Office of Behavioral Health - Medicaid Seed

Office of Behavioral Health

Opioid Use Disorder Prevention and Treatment Fund

Progressive Treatment Program Fund

Recovery Community Centers Fund

Riverview Psychiatric Center

Language Part "YY" Repeals certain statues related to crisis receiving centers that conflict with other statutory provisions and makes a correction to the definition of "crisis receiving center".

Language Part "JJJ" Carries forward any unexpended balance remaining of the \$1,900,000 appropriated in Public Law 2023, chapter 643 for the establishment of 2 behavioral health crisis receiving centers in Androscoggin and Penobscot counties from fiscal year 2024-25 to fiscal year 2025-26.

BRAIN INJURY & OTHER CONDITIONS

Health and Human Services, Department of

Brain Injury

Medicaid Waiver for Other Related Conditions

Medicaid Waiver for Brain Injury Residential/Community Services

Traumatic Brain Injury Seed

1:00 PM Tuesday, February 25, 2025 (TRA)

To be held in conjunction with the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation:

Public Safety, Department of

State Police

Traffic Safety-Commercial Vehicle Enforcement

Turnpike Enforcement

Language Part "WWW" Authorizes the Department of Administrative and Financial Services and the Department of Public Safety to enter into financial arrangements in each year of the biennium for the acquisition of motor vehicles for the State Police.

Secretary of State, Department of

Administration – Motor Vehicles

Municipal Excise Tax Reimbursement Fund

2:00 PM Tuesday, February 25, 2025 (ACF)

To be held in conjunction with the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry:

Baxter State Park Authority

Baxter State Park Authority

Blueberry Commission of Maine, Wild

Blueberry Commission

Finance Authority of Maine

Dairy Improvement Fund

Potato Board, Maine

Potato Board

University of Maine System, Board of Trustees of the
 Tick Laboratory and Pest Management Fund
 University of Maine Cooperative Extension

Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Department of

Animal Welfare Fund

Bureau of Agriculture

Certified Seed Fund

Conservation and Recreation Fund

Conservation Land Management Fund

DACF Administration

Division of Forest Protection

Emergency Food Assistance Program

Farmers Drought Relief Grant Program

Forest Resource Management

Fund To Address Food Insecurity and Provide Nutrition Incentives

Geology and Resource Information

Harness Racing Commission

Land for Maine's Future

Land for Maine's Future-Community Conservation Projects

Land for Maine's Future Trust Fund

Land Management and Planning

Maine Agricultural Food and Forest Products Investment Fund

Maine Conservation Corps

Maine Farms for the Future Program

Maine Forestry Operations Cleanup and Response Fund

Maine Healthy Soils Fund

Maine Land Use Planning Commission

Maine Working Farmland Access and Protection Fund

Milk Commission

Natural Areas Program

Off-Road Recreational Vehicles Program

Parks – General Operations

Pesticides Control, Board of

Statewide Hunger Relief Program

Submerged Lands and Island Registry

Language Part "S" Establishes an account administered by the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to support public-private partnerships to carry out the purposes of the Maine Working Farmland Access and Protection Program.

Language Part "T" Updates the fee for an original or renewal of an annual arborist license to no more than \$180.

Language Part "U" Establishes a dedicated account for the Maine Land Use Planning Commission to accept funds including surcharges for digital/online payments.

Language Part "V" Transfers in each year of the biennium of all funds in excess of \$550,000 from unencumbered balance forward in the Personal Services and All Other line categories in the Division of Forest Protection, General Fund account to the Capital Expenditures line category in the Division of Forest Protection, General Fund account.

Language Part "W" Transfers \$500,000 from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Other Special Revenue Funds Community-based greenhouse - Bureau of Agriculture for one-time funding for grants for durable greenhouse structures and associated siting and installation costs to schools, community centers, and other eligible public entities .

10:00 AM Wednesday, February 26, 2025 (MAR)

To be held in conjunction with the Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources:

Maine Lobster Marketing Collaborative

Lobster Promotion Fund

Marine Resources, Department of

Bureau of Marine Science

Bureau of Policy and Management

Bureau of Public Health

Lobster Innovation Fund

Lobster Legal Defense Fund

Marine Patrol – Bureau of

Sea Run Fisheries and Habitat

Language Part "SSS" Renames the Bureau of Health program to the Bureau of Public Health and Aquaculture program.

Language Part "GGGG" Transfers any unobligated balance at the close of fiscal year 2024-25 from the Aquaculture Research Fund, Other Special Revenue Funds account and the Aquaculture Management Fund, Other Special Revenue Funds account within the Bureau of Policy and Management program to the accounts within the Bureau of Public Health program.

11:00 AM Wednesday, February 26, 2025 (HCIFS)

To be held in conjunction with the Joint Standing Committees on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Sv

Administrative and Financial Services, Department of

Accident – Sickness – Health Insurance

State Mandate Defrayal

Trade Adjustment Assistance Health Insurance

Language Part "O" Authorizes employees of the Maine Developmental Services Oversight and Advisory Board to participate in the state health insurance plan.

Dirigo Health
Dirigo Health Fund
Health and Human Services, Department of
Maine Health Insurance Marketplace Trust Fund
Health Data Organization, Maine
Maine Health Data Organization
<i>Language Part "OO" Authorizes the Maine Health Data Organization to transfer up to \$300,000 in each fiscal year, available balances of Personal Services allocations to the All Other line category in the Maine Health Data Organization, Other Special Revenue Funds account.</i>
Maine Retirement Savings Board
Maine Retirement Savings Program
Office of Affordable Health Care
Office of Affordable Health Care
Professional and Financial Regulation, Department of
American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 - Homeowner Assistance Fund
Bureau of Consumer Credit Protection
Financial Institutions – Bureau of
Insurance – Bureau of
Licensure in Medicine – Board of
Nursing – Board of
Office of Securities
Optometry – Board of
Osteopathic Licensure – Board of
Securities Restitution Assistance Fund
<i>Language Part "TTT" Establishes a career ladder for the Bank Examiner job classifications within the Department of Professional and Financial Regulations, Bureau of Financial Institutions.</i>
1:00 PM Wednesday, February 26, 2025 (IFW)
To be held in conjunction with the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife:
Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, Department of
Administrative Services – IF&W
ATV Enforcement Fund
ATV Safety and Educational Program
Boating Access Sites
Camp North Woods Fund
Endangered Nongame Operations

Enforcement Operations – IF&W

Fisheries and Hatcheries Operations

Landowner Relations

Licensing Services – IF&W

Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund

Office of the Commissioner – IF&W

Public Information and Education, Division of

Resource Management Services – IF&W

Search and Rescue

Waterfowl Habitat Acquisition and Management

Whitewater Rafting – IF&W

Whitewater Rafting Fund

Language Part "Y" Transfers \$2,500,000 from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to fund capital construction and repair of state dams.

Language Part "LLL" Postpones the application of the IFW fiscal stability program

Language Part "MMM" Transfers funds from the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Carrying Balances – General Fund account to the Enforcement Operations program, General Fund account for the purchase of replacement aircraft engines and propellers, and boats/motor/trailer replacements and to the Administrative Services IFW, General Fund account for the upgrade of regional offices for ADA compliance and energy efficiency

Language Part "NNN" Increases fishing license fees, assessed by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, by \$7.

1:00 PM Thursday, February 27, 2025 (VLA)

To be held in conjunction with the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs:

Administrative and Financial Services, Department of

Alcoholic Beverages – General Operations

Adult Use Cannabis Public Health and Safety Fund and Municipal Opt-In Fund

Adult Use Cannabis Regulatory Coordination Fund

Lottery Operations

Medical Use of Cannabis Fund

Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management, Department of

Administration – Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management

Maine National Guard Postsecondary Fund

Maine Veterans Homes Stabilization Fund

Military Training & Operations

Veterans Services

Veterans Temporary Assistance Fund

Veterans' Homelessness Prevention Partnership Fund

Ethics and Elections Practices, Commission on Governmental
Governmental Ethics and Election Practices, Commission on
Public Safety, Department of
Gambling Control Board
Secretary of State, Department of
Elections and Commissions
Bureau of Administrative Services and Corporations <u>Corporations, Elections and Commissions</u>
3:00 PM Thursday, February 27, 2025 (EUT)
To be held in conjunction with the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology:
ConnectMaine Authority
ConnectMaine Fund
Economic and Community Development, Department of
Energy Rate Relief Fund
Office of Broadband Development
Efficiency Maine Trust
Efficiency Maine Trust
Energy Resources, Department of
Department of Energy Resources
<i>Language Part "LL" Transitions the Governor's Energy Office from a program within the Executive Department to the Department of Energy Resources.</i>
Executive Department
Distributed Solar and Energy Storage Program
Governor's Energy Office
Maine Offshore Wind Renewable Energy and Economic Development Program
Offshore Wind Research Consortium Fund
Public Advocate
Maine Connectivity Authority
Maine Connectivity Authority
Public Utilities Commission
Emergency Services Communication Bureau
Oversight and Evaluation Fund
PUC - Interconnection Ombudsman Fund

PUC - Unused NEB Credits for Low-Income Assistance
 Public Utilities – Administrative Division

Telecommunications Relay Services Council
 Telecommunications Relay Services Council Fund

10:00 AM Friday, February 28, 2025 (SLG) Department and Agency Testimony

To be held in conjunction with the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government:

DEPARTMENT AND AGENCY TESTIMONY ON ALL PROGRAMS AND LANGUAGE PARTS NOTED IN PUBLIC TESTIMONY LISTING SHOWN BELOW

1:00 PM Friday, February 28, 2025 (SLG) Public Testimony

To be held in conjunction with the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government:

Attorney General, Office of
 Road Commission Fund

Auditor, Office of the State
 Audit Bureau
 Unorganized Territory

Cemetery Preservation Commission, Maine State
 Cemetery Preservation Fund

Executive Department
 Administration – Executive – Governor’s Office
 Blaine House
 GOPIF - Community Resilience Partnership
 Office of New Americans
 Office of Policy Innovation and the Future

Municipal Bond Bank, Maine
 Maine Municipal Bond Bank – Maine Rural Water Association

Perm Comm on the Status of Racial, Indigenous and Tribal Pop
 Racial, Indigenous and Maine Tribal Populations

Secretary of State, Department of
 Administration – Archives

Treasurer of the State, Office of
 Administration – Treasury

Administrative and Financial Services, Department of (DAFS)

Administration – Human Resources

American Rescue Plan Audit, Controller and Program Management

Budget – Bureau of the

Buildings & Grounds Operations

Bureau of General Services – Capital Construction and Improvement Reserve Fund

Capital Construction/Repairs/Improvements – Administration

Central Administrative Applications

Central Fleet Management

Central Services – Purchases

Centralized Imaging Services

Debt Service – Government Facilities Authority

Financial and Personnel Services – Division of

Information Services

Lead by Example

Leased Space Reserve Fund Program

Office of the Commissioner – Administrative & Financial Services

Public Improvements - Planning/Construction - Administration

Purchases – Division of

Risk Management – Claims

State Controller – Office of the

Statewide Radio Network System

Workers' Compensation Management Fund Program

Language Part "J-1 & J-2" Authorizes the Maine Governmental Facilities Authority to issue additional securities up to \$56,000,000 to pay for the costs of capital repairs and improvements to and construction of state-owned facilities and hazardous waste cleanup on state-owned properties.

Language Part "K" Authorizes DAFS to enter into financing arrangements for the acquisition of motor vehicles for the Central Fleet Management System

Language Part "L" Authorizes the DAFS to enter into financing arrangements related to the support of the Statewide Radio Network

Language Part "M" Authorizes the DAFS to enter into financing arrangements for improvements to the State's technology infrastructure and data centers; purchase of enterprise software; modernization of databases, storage and other components; and improved security of confidential data.

Language Part "N" Allows remaining balances in the Maine Governmental Facilities Authority program in each year of the biennium to carry over to the following year

Language Part "BBBB" Directs the Department of Administrative and Financial Services to seek reimbursement for costs to repair the Mackworth Island causeway.