

REP. RYAN D. FECTEAU
CHAIR

SEN. MATTHEA E.L. DAUGHTRY
VICE-CHAIR

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
SUZANNE M. GRESSER



132nd MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

SEN. TERESA S. PIERCE
SEN. JILL C. DUSON
SEN. HAROLD "TREY" STEWART, III
SEN. MATTHEW HARRINGTON
REP. MATTHEW MOONEN
REP. LORI GRAMLICH
REP. BILLY BOB FAULKINGHAM
REP. KATRINA SMITH

April 24, 2025
1:30 P.M.

REVISED AGENDA

<u>Page</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Action</u>
	CALL TO ORDER	
	ROLL CALL	
1	SUMMARY OF THE FEBRUARY 27, 2025 MEETING OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL	Decision
8	REPORTS FROM STAFF OFFICE DIRECTORS	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Fiscal Report (Christopher Nolan, Director, OFPR)	Information
	REPORTS FROM COUNCIL COMMITTEES	
	None	
	OLD BUSINESS	
13	Item #1: Council Action Taken by Ballot (No Action Required)	Information
	NEW BUSINESS	
❖14	Item #1: Consideration of Requests for After Deadline Bill and Certain Joint Resolution Requests	Roll Call Vote
16	Item #2: Adoption of the Legislative Council Policy on Legislative Studies for the 132 nd Legislature	Decision
	Item #3: Reimbursement to Legislators for Postal Boxes	Decision
	ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REMARKS	
	ADJOURNMENT	

115 STATE HOUSE STATION, AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0115
TELEPHONE 207-287-1615 FAX 207-287-1621

REP. RYAN D. FECTEAU
CHAIR

SEN. MATTHEA E.L. DAUGHTRY
VICE-CHAIR

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
SUZANNE M. GRESSER



132nd MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

SEN. TERESA S. PIERCE
SEN. JILL DUSON
SEN. HAROLD "TREY" STEWART, III
SEN. MATTHEW HARRINGTON
REP. MATTHEW MOONEN
REP. LORI GRAMLICH
REP. BILLY BOB FAULKINGHAM
REP. KATRINA SMITH

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
MEETING SUMMARY
February 27, 2025**

CALL TO ORDER

Speaker Fecteau called the February 27, 2025 meeting of the 132nd Legislative Council to order at 10:17 a.m. in the Legislative Council Chamber.

ROLL CALL

Senators: President Daughtry (arrived after roll called), Senator Pierce, Senator Duson, Senator Stewart (arrived after roll called) and Senator Harrington

Representatives: Speaker Fecteau, Representative Moonen, Representative Gramlich, Representative Faulkingham, and Representative Smith

Legislative Officers: Darek Grant, Secretary of the Senate
Robert Hunt, Clerk of the House
Suzanne Gresser, Executive Director of the Legislative Council
Ed Charbonneau, Revisor, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Chris Nolan, Director, Office of Fiscal and Program Review
Danielle Fox, Director, Office of Policy and Legal Analysis
Nik Rende, Director, Office of Legislative Information Technology

Speaker Fecteau convened the meeting at 10:17 a.m. with a quorum of members present.

**SUMMARIES OF THE DECEMBER 10, 2024 & JANUARY 9, 2025 MEETINGS OF THE
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**

Motion: That the Meeting Summaries for December 10, 2024 and the January 9, 2025 be accepted and placed on file. Motion by Representative Moonen. Second by Representative Pierce. **Motion passed (8-0-0-2**, with President Daughtry and Senator Stewart recorded as absent).

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL OFFICE DIRECTORS

Fiscal Report

Christopher Nolan, Director of the Office of Fiscal and Program Review, presented the fiscal report found in the agenda packet.

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL COMMITTEES

None.

OLD BUSINESS

Item #1: Council Actions Taken by Ballot

LR 2434 An Act Regarding Access to Certain Probate Records

Submitted by: Representative Matthew Moonen

Date: February 7, 2025

Vote: 6-0-0-4 Passed (with Senator Stewart, Senator Harrington, Representative Faulkingham, Representative Smith recorded as absent)

Speaker Fecteau announced his intention to take items out of order, and hearing no objection, the Chair then moved on to Item #2 under **New Business**.

NEW BUSINESS

Item #2 Acceptance of Report of Criminal Records Review Committee

The Criminal Records Review Committee submitted its report for acceptance by the Legislative Council.

Senator Stewart inquired whether it would be permissible to accept with one motion all of the reports listed under Item #2 to Item #7; Director Gresser answered in the affirmative.

Item #3 Acceptance of the Nineteenth Annual Report of the Right to Know Advisory Committee

The Right to Know Advisory Committee submitted its nineteenth annual report for acceptance by the Legislative Council.

Item #4 Acceptance of the Report of the Blue Ribbon Commission to Study the Organization of and Service Delivery by the Department of Health and Human Services

The Blue Ribbon Commission to Study the Organization of and Service Delivery by the Department of Health and Human Services submitted its report for acceptance by the Legislative Council.

Item #5 Acceptance of the Loring Development Authority Annual Report

The Loring Development Authority submitted its annual report for acceptance by the Legislative Council.

Item #6 Acceptance of the Washington County Development Authority Annual Report

The Washington County Development Authority submitted its annual report for acceptance by the Legislative Council.

Item #7 Acceptance of the Midcoast Regional Redevelopment Authority Annual Report

The Midcoast Regional Redevelopment Authority submitted its annual report for acceptance by the Legislative Council.

Motion: That the Legislative Council accept and place on file the reports of:

- The Criminal Records Review Committee;
- The Right to Know Advisory Committee;
- The Blue Ribbon Commission to Study the Organization of and Service Delivery by the Department of Health and Human Services;
- The Loring Development Authority;
- The Washington County Development Authority; and
- The Midcoast Regional Redevelopment Authority.

Motion by Senator Stewart. Second by Representative Moonen. **Motion passed (9-0-0-1,** with President Daughtry recorded as absent).

Item #8. Request from the YMCA Youth and Government Program to Hold the Youth and Government Program in the State House Complex

The Council reviewed the request from the YMCA Youth and Government Program to hold the 2025 Youth and Government Program in the State House Complex over the weekend preceding Veterans Day, beginning Friday, November 7, 2025, and concluding Sunday, November 9, 2025.

Motion: That the Legislative Council authorize the YMCA Youth and Government Program to hold the 2025 Youth and Government Program in the State House Complex on November 7-9, 2025. Motion by Senator Stewart. Second by Representative Moonen. Motion passed unanimously (9-0-0-1, with Senator Daughtry recorded as absent).

Item #9. Legislative Council Appointment to Revenue Forecasting Committee

Director Gresser informed the Council that the recent retirement of OFPR Principal Analyst Marc Cyr resulted in a vacancy on the Revenue Forecasting Committee. The law requires this position be filled by a nonpartisan legislative staff member familiar with revenue estimating issues, appointed by the Legislative Council. Director Gresser drew members' attention to OFPR Director Chris Nolan's recommendation that the Legislative Council appoint OFPR Principal Analyst Luke R. Lazure to fill this slot on the Revenue Forecasting Committee.

Motion: That the Legislative Council appoint OFPR Principal Analyst Luke R. Lazure to fill the vacancy on the Revenue Forecasting Committee as the nonpartisan legislative staff member familiar with revenue estimating issues. Motion by Senator Pierce. Second by Representative Moonen. Motion passed unanimously (9-0-0-1, with Senator Daughtry recorded as absent).

Item #10. Review of the *Legislative Council Policy on Use of the State House Welcome Center*

Director Gresser noted that there has been a sharp increase in requests to reserve committee rooms for organized events designed to provide information, briefings and educational forums to Legislators, and that these requests are usually accompanied by requests to serve food, which requires specific authorization from the Presiding Officers. Director Gresser noted that it will become increasingly difficult as session continues to accommodate such requests without adversely affecting the functioning of the legislative committees. As described in the memorandum included the Council packet, one potential solution might be to alter the *Legislative Council Policy on Use of the State House Welcome Center* to allow the consumption of food in the limited circumstance when that space is being used to provide information to Legislators. Rep. Moonen confirmed that the proposed change in the policy allowing food would be limited to informational forums and briefings provided to legislators. Speaker Fecteau acknowledged that proposals to alter the use of space in the State House are usually referred to the State House Facilities Committee, but in this instance, he is comfortable with the Legislative Council voting on the matter without reference first to the State House Facilities Committee. Speaker Fecteau also noted his hope that those who organize the briefings and forums for Legislators will ensure that the space is cleaned up and restored to its original state following the events involving food, and expressed his intent that legislative staff not be placed in the position of having to clean up after such events. Senator Harrington asked whether Capitol Police had been consulted on the proposal. At Speaker Fecteau's invitation to weigh in, Chief Clancy said that currently, when larger groups are in the Welcome Center, its proximity to security screening can lead to some congestion; however, once the security screening redesign is completed, that will completely negate any potential for congestion.

Motion: That the Legislative Council amend the *Legislative Council Policy on Use of the State House Welcome Center* to allow the consumption of food in the limited circumstance when that space is being used to provide information to legislators. Motion by Senator Stewart. Second by Representative Moonen. Motion passed unanimously (9-0-0-1, with Senator Daughtry recorded as absent).

Speaker Fecteau turned next to Item #1 under **New Business**.

Item #1 Consideration of After Deadline Bill Requests

The Legislative Council proceeded to consider and vote on eight (8) after-deadline bill requests, and one (1) request for a Joint Resolution. Of the eight (8) after-deadline bill requests, the Legislative Council accepted six (6) requests, rejected one (1) request, and tabled one (1) request. The Legislative Council tabled the one (1) request for a Joint Resolution. The Legislative Council's action on the requests is attached to this meeting summary.

Speaker Fecteau turned next to Item #2 under **Old Business**.

Item #2 Establishment of staff positions.

Speaker Fecteau drew members' attention to Old Business Item #2 concerning the establishment of additional staff positions, which was tabled at the Council's December 10, 2024 meeting, and was later discussed in part at the Legislative Council meeting held on January 9, 2025. Speaker Fecteau inquired of the members whether there was any additional discussion, questions, or comments as it related to the issue of establishing additional staff positions. Senator Stewart asked about the process for the Legislative Council to consider the staffing needs of the Legislature. Director Gresser responded that the usual process is that proposals regarding personnel and staffing would first be reviewed by the Personnel Committee, which would then provide its recommendations to the full Legislative Council. The Legislative Council's decisions would be transmitted to the

Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs for incorporation into the budget bill. Speaker Fecteau indicated that additional discussions about staffing would be taken up in the Personnel Committee.

Speaker Fecteau stated that the Council would take up the final agenda item, which is Item #11 under **New Business**, in executive session, and that the Legislative Council would not take up any additional public matters afterwards.

Item #11 State House Complex Security Briefing

Motion: That, in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 1, section 405, subsection 6, and Title 1, section 402, subsection 3, paragraph L, the Legislative Council enter into an executive session for the purpose of receiving information related to security plans and security procedures. Motion by Senator Pierce. Second by Representative Gramlich. Motion passed unanimously (9-0-0-1, with Senator Stewart recorded as absent).

With no other public business to consider or further announcements, the Legislative Council entered into executive session at 11:21 am.

**132nd First Regular Session
Legislative Council Actions Taken
On Requests to Introduce Legislation at
Legislative Council Meeting Held February 27, 2025**

AFTER DEADLINE BILL REQUESTS

Submitted by: Sex Offender Management and Risk Assessment Advisory Commission

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2412	An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Sex Offender Management and Risk Assessment Advisory Commission Regarding Tier II Offenses	Passed

SPONSOR: Rep. Dan Ankeles

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2456	An Act to Allow the Use of a Siren on a Vehicle Used by a Harbor Master	Passed

SPONSOR: Sen. Stacy Fielding Brenner

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2481	An Act to Support Farmers and Food Banks Affected by Federal Funding Cuts to Their Existing Contracts	Passed

2482	An Act to Ensure Public Access to Conservation Land by Providing Protections from Liability to Landowners	Tabled
------	---	--------

SPONSOR: Rep. Stephan M. Bunker

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2446	An Act to Require Law Enforcement Agencies to Adopt Written Policies Regarding Compliance with Certain Constitutional Obligations Related to Disclosure of Evidence	Passed

SPONSOR: Rep. Cheryl A. Golek

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2407	An Act to Facilitate Reconstruction of Storm-damaged Commercial Fisheries Facilities and Infrastructure	Failed

SPONSOR: Rep. Tiffany Strout

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2440	Resolve, to Require the Review and Further Development of Training to Recover Persons in Distress or Lost at Sea	Passed

SPONSOR: Sen. Rachel Talbot Ross

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2430	An Act to Amend Maine's Good Samaritan Laws	No action taken

LATE-FILED MAJOR SUBSTANTIVE RULES

SPONSOR:

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2424	Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Chapter 113: Assisted Housing Programs Licensing Rule, a Late-filed Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Health and Human Services	Passed

JOINT RESOLUTIONS

SPONSOR: Rep. Mana H. Abdi

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
1978	JOINT RESOLUTION URGING CONGRESS TO RATIFY THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT	Tabled

Fiscal Briefing

April 24, 2025

Prepared by the Office of Fiscal & Program Review

1. General Fund Revenue Update (see attached)

Total General Fund Revenue - FY 2025 (\$'s in Millions)

	Budget	Actual	Var.	% Var.	Prior Year	% Change
March	\$251.1	\$286.6	\$35.5	14.1%	\$318.8	-10.1%
FYTD	\$3,841.3	\$3,848.8	\$7.5	0.2%	\$3,619.2	6.3%

General Fund revenue was above budget by \$35.5 million (14.1%) for the month of March and above budget by \$7.5 million (0.2%) for the fiscal year to date. General Fund revenue through March of FY25 was 6.3% greater than General Fund revenue through March of FY24.

Individual income tax revenue was above budget by \$51.7 million for March and above budget by \$5.5 million (0.3%) for the fiscal year to date. Individual income tax refunds were \$36.1 million less than budgeted for March (a positive impact on the General Fund) but were still greater, \$30.2 million, than budgeted for the fiscal year to date (a negative impact on the General Fund). Individual income tax withholding payments for March exceeded budget by \$15.7 million for the month and by \$44.5 million for the fiscal year to date, while final and estimated payments were slightly below budget for the month and \$10.1 million below budget for the fiscal year to date. Corporate income tax revenue was \$9.6 million below budget for March and \$35.7 million (-12.6%) below budget for the fiscal year to date. Sales and use tax revenue for March (February sales) was \$1.8 million below budget for the month but \$1.0 million (0.1%) above budget for the fiscal year to date.

2. Highway Fund Revenue Update (see attached)

Total Highway Fund Revenue - FY 2025 (\$'s in Millions)

	Budget	Actual	Var.	% Var.	Prior Year	% Change
March	\$29.5	\$36.8	\$7.3	24.7%	\$32.5	13.4%
FYTD	\$415.4	\$433.7	\$18.3	4.4%	\$414.6	4.6%

Highway Fund revenue was above budget by \$7.3 million (24.7%) for the month of March and above budget by \$18.3 million (4.4%) for the fiscal year to date. Highway Fund revenue through March of FY25 was 4.6% greater than Highway Fund revenue through March of FY24. These positive variances for the month and for the fiscal year to date are overstated because \$3.9 million in budgeted quarterly transfers out of the Highway Fund were delayed until April.

Fuel taxes revenue was \$0.8 million above budget for March and \$1.2 million (0.7%) above budget for the fiscal year to date. Motor vehicle registration and fees were above budget by \$5.6 million for March and above budget by \$9.2 million (12.6%) for the fiscal year to date. Adjusting for the delay in the \$3.9 million budgeted transfer from these fees to the transportation revenue bond fund, registration and fees were above budget by \$1.7 million for March and \$5.3 million (7.2%) for the fiscal year to date. Highway Fund revenue for the fiscal year to date also included \$46.7 million in liquor operations fund transfers which were \$4.2 million (9.9%) above budget for the fiscal year to date.

3. Cash Balances Update

The average daily balance in the cash pool for March was \$3,476.6 million, a decrease of \$195.0 million from February's average daily balance. Decreases in the General Fund and Other Special Revenue Funds – Retaining Interest were partially offset by increases in the Highway Fund and Other Special Revenue Fund – Interest to the General Fund. March is historically a low point in General Fund cash balances reflecting the

timing of tax refunds and payments. The Highway Fund balance for March was \$93.5 million, an increase of \$10.7 million from January.

4. Economic and Revenue Forecasts - Meetings

The Consensus Economic Forecasting Commission (CEFC) met on March 31, 2025 to review and update the economic forecast and released its [April 1st report](#). The Revenue Forecasting Committee (RFC) is scheduled to meet on Monday April 28th to review and update the revenue forecast for its required May 1st report.

General Fund Revenue
Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2025 (FY 2025)

Updated 4/15/25

March 2025 Revenue Variance Report

Revenue Category	Fiscal Year-To-Date								FY 2025 Budgeted Totals
	March '25 Budget	March '25 Actual	March '25 Variance	Budget	Actual	Variance	Variance %	% Change from Prior Year	
Sales and Use Tax ¹	145,976,912	144,146,295	(1,830,617)	1,761,330,360	1,762,379,961	1,049,601	0.1%	2.5%	2,310,097,230
Service Provider Tax	3,459,576	2,477,331	(982,245)	33,956,503	34,967,542	1,011,039	3.0%	-6.2%	44,921,700
Individual Income Tax	27,149,794	78,810,904	51,661,110	1,779,925,372	1,785,453,042	5,527,670	0.3%	12.0%	2,639,470,721
Corporate Income Tax	20,500,000	10,930,815	(9,569,185)	283,737,304	248,001,583	(35,735,721)	-12.6%	-9.9%	445,000,000
Cigarette and Tobacco Tax ²	13,087,685	10,074,735	(3,012,950)	111,994,019	109,916,716	(2,077,303)	-1.9%	-1.7%	150,912,602
Insurance Companies Tax	22,568,393	24,625,079	2,056,686	43,937,917	48,594,792	4,656,875	10.6%	23.7%	123,960,000
Estate Tax	2,750,000	1,196,675	(1,553,325)	30,595,000	45,835,728	15,240,728	49.8%	419.0%	38,830,000
Other Taxes and Fees *	9,097,113	7,595,569	(1,501,544)	111,043,981	107,059,005	(3,984,976)	-3.6%	0.0%	153,524,634
Fines, Forfeits and Penalties	2,454,460	1,288,746	(1,165,714)	13,824,762	8,590,291	(5,234,472)	-37.9%	5.6%	18,445,471
Income from Investments	3,918,485	5,016,550	1,098,065	46,638,338	48,857,643	2,219,305	4.8%	19.3%	60,387,497
Transfer from Lottery Commission	6,730,769	8,207,370	1,476,601	52,499,997	58,449,747	5,949,750	11.3%	-15.6%	70,000,000
Transfer from Liquor Commission	0	0	0	7,000,000	7,000,000	0	0.0%	108.5%	7,000,000
Transfers to Tax Relief Programs *	(2,106,120)	(3,741,533)	(1,635,413)	(87,764,184)	(84,179,605)	3,584,579	4.1%	-2.0%	(88,070,000)
Transfers for Municipal Revenue Sharing	(9,392,266)	(8,325,311)	1,066,955	(210,803,777)	(207,568,110)	3,235,667	1.5%	-7.1%	(278,733,757)
Highway Fund Sales Tax Transfer	0	0	0	(115,811,095)	(115,811,095)	0	0.0%	-7.7%	(115,811,095)
Other Revenue *	4,922,925	4,316,732	(606,193)	(20,798,205)	(8,730,523)	12,067,682	58.0%	47.7%	1,222,266
Totals	251,117,726	286,619,956	35,502,230	3,841,306,292	3,848,816,716	7,510,424	0.2%	6.3%	5,581,157,269

* Additional detail by subcategory for these categories is presented on the following page.

1 / Includes revenue from adult-use cannabis sales taxes of \$1.7 million for March and \$18.8 million for the fiscal year to date.

2 / Includes revenue from adult-use cannabis excise taxes of \$1.5 million for March and \$14.4 million for the fiscal year to date.

General Fund Revenue
Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2025 (FY 2025)

Updated 4/15/25

March 2025 Revenue Variance Report

Revenue Category	Fiscal Year-To-Date								FY 2025 Budgeted Totals
	March '25 Budget	March '25 Actual	March '25 Variance	Budget	Actual	Variance	Variance %	% Change from Prior Year	
Detail of Other Taxes and Fees:									
- Property Tax - Unorganized Territory	0	0	0	12,591,207	14,689,022	2,097,815	16.7%	9.9%	14,883,223
- Real Estate Transfer Tax	1,312,819	1,510,051	197,232	15,520,549	16,659,190	1,138,641	7.3%	11.2%	20,930,466
- Liquor Taxes and Fees	2,034,469	671,523	(1,362,946)	16,550,182	12,924,229	(3,625,953)	-21.9%	-22.7%	22,093,824
- Corporation Fees and Licenses	1,159,658	1,719,313	559,655	5,964,921	8,662,418	2,697,497	45.2%	34.4%	12,643,649
- Telecommunication Excise Tax	0	0	0	6,135,714	6,136,085	371	0.0%	5140.1%	6,625,000
- Finance Industry Fees	2,035,299	2,337,400	302,101	19,249,098	18,933,350	(315,748)	-1.6%	-3.1%	25,355,000
- Milk Handling Fee	83,400	74,937	(8,463)	664,651	639,046	(25,605)	-3.9%	-40.8%	839,092
- Racino Revenue	919,534	946,847	27,313	8,512,806	8,987,894	475,088	5.6%	5.6%	11,272,429
- Boat, ATV and Snowmobile Fees	124,375	550,785	426,410	2,446,485	2,347,131	(99,354)	-4.1%	3.8%	4,559,561
- Hunting and Fishing License Fees	650,931	(886,325)	(1,537,256)	12,712,684	7,009,428	(5,703,256)	-44.9%	-53.4%	15,996,984
- Other Miscellaneous Taxes and Fees	776,628	671,038	(105,590)	10,695,684	10,071,211	(624,473)	-5.8%	12.2%	18,325,406
Subtotal - Other Taxes and Fees	9,097,113	7,595,569	(1,501,544)	111,043,981	107,059,005	(3,984,976)	-3.6%	0.0%	153,524,634
Detail of Other Revenue:									
- Targeted Case Management (DHHS)	0	0	0	0	0	0	N/A	-100.0%	0
- State Cost Allocation Program	1,903,777	1,951,998	48,221	19,686,331	18,980,275	(706,056)	-3.6%	16.3%	26,436,801
- Unclaimed Property Transfer	0	0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	8,000,000
- Tourism Transfer	0	0	0	(25,088,331)	(24,268,654)	819,677	3.3%	-3.5%	(25,088,331)
- Transfer to Maine Milk Pool	900,000	(258,867)	(1,158,867)	(3,240,728)	(3,037,457)	203,271	6.3%	52.8%	(3,073,181)
- Transfer to Multimodal Transportation Fund	0	0	0	(16,560,581)	(16,560,580)	1	0.0%	-9.3%	(16,560,581)
- Transfer to Adult-Use Cannabis Fund	(421,740)	(404,112)	17,628	(3,998,064)	(3,973,551)	24,513	0.6%	-13.7%	(3,993,660)
- Other Miscellaneous Revenue	2,540,888	3,027,712	486,824	8,403,168	20,129,444	11,726,276	139.5%	29.9%	15,501,218
Subtotal - Other Revenue	4,922,925	4,316,732	(606,193)	(20,798,205)	(8,730,523)	12,067,682	58.0%	47.7%	1,222,266
Detail of Transfers to Tax Relief Programs:									
- Me. Resident Prop. Tax Program (Circuitbreaker)	0	0	0	0	0	0	N/A	-100.0%	0
- BETR - Business Equipment Tax Reimb.	(2,043,325)	(3,582,171)	(1,538,846)	(17,086,406)	(14,834,861)	2,251,545	13.2%	16.8%	(17,340,000)
- BETE - Municipal Bus. Equip. Tax Reimb.	(62,795)	(159,362)	(96,567)	(70,677,778)	(69,344,744)	1,333,034	1.9%	-7.1%	(70,730,000)
Subtotal - Tax Relief Transfers	(2,106,120)	(3,741,533)	(1,635,413)	(87,764,184)	(84,179,605)	3,584,579	4.1%	-2.0%	(88,070,000)
Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Revenue - Total	864,978	(161,097)	(1,026,075)	15,851,898	10,116,715	(5,735,183)	-36.2%	-43.9%	21,513,348

Highway Fund Revenue
Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2025 (FY 2025)

Updated 4/15/25

March 2025 Revenue Variance Report

Revenue Category	March '25 Budget	March '25 Actual	March '25 Variance	Fiscal Year-To-Date					FY 2025 Budgeted Totals
				Budget	Actual	Variance	Variance %	% Change from Prior Year	
Fuel Taxes:									
- Gasoline Tax	14,595,033	15,251,946	656,913	153,966,974	153,298,866	(668,108)	-0.4%	1.0%	200,889,446
- Special Fuel and Road Use Taxes	3,504,190	4,314,219	810,029	38,088,549	39,295,820	1,207,271	3.2%	8.1%	48,940,713
- Transcap Transfers - Fuel Taxes	(1,388,196)	(1,960,042)	(571,846)	(20,380,180)	(19,315,989)	1,064,191	5.2%	-2.4%	(25,092,668)
- Other Fund Gasoline Tax Distributions	(326,079)	(443,801)	(117,722)	(3,987,251)	(4,395,173)	(407,922)	-10.2%	-10.8%	(5,023,642)
Subtotal - Fuel Taxes	16,384,948	17,162,322	777,374	167,688,092	168,883,525	1,195,433	0.7%	2.2%	219,713,849
Motor Vehicle Registration and Fees:									
- Motor Vehicle Registration Fees	6,549,319	7,268,342	719,023	52,395,848	54,133,634	1,737,786	3.3%	3.5%	70,669,954
- License Plate Fees	396,641	753,462	356,821	3,656,999	4,989,314	1,332,315	36.4%	60.0%	4,414,608
- Long-term Trailer Registration Fees	1,466,489	1,829,501	363,012	10,451,184	12,334,326	1,883,142	18.0%	-4.9%	15,034,523
- Title Fees	1,077,471	1,199,070	121,599	10,836,435	10,544,660	(291,775)	-2.7%	-5.5%	14,264,069
- Motor Vehicle Operator License Fees	924,756	1,056,863	132,107	7,961,115	8,538,486	577,371	7.3%	3.3%	10,483,098
- Transcap Transfers - Motor Vehicle Fees	(3,882,625)	0	3,882,625	(12,462,779)	(8,542,232)	3,920,547	31.5%	-2.0%	(16,653,054)
Subtotal - Motor Vehicle Reg. & Fees	6,532,051	12,107,237	5,575,186	72,838,802	81,998,188	9,159,386	12.6%	3.2%	98,213,198
Motor Vehicle Inspection Fees	265,215	26,884	(238,331)	2,386,935	2,303,755	(83,180)	-3.5%	68.7%	3,182,600
Other Highway Fund Taxes and Fees	58,080	101,182	43,102	500,942	1,246,756	745,814	148.9%	25.0%	1,429,470
Fines, Forfeits and Penalties	51,438	107,641	56,203	422,499	812,216	389,717	92.2%	2.2%	606,512
Interest Earnings	340,264	298,183	(42,081)	3,441,284	3,015,498	(425,786)	-12.4%	107.3%	4,397,137
Highway Fund Sales Tax Transfer	0	0	0	115,811,095	115,811,095	(0)	0.0%	7.7%	115,811,095
Liquor Operations Fund Transfer	5,500,000	6,133,543	633,543	42,500,000	46,697,427	4,197,427	9.9%	1.9%	59,000,000
Other Highway Fund Revenue	397,574	871,626	474,052	9,809,919	12,903,375	3,093,456	31.5%	8.3%	12,411,265
Totals	29,529,570	36,808,618	7,279,048	415,399,568	433,671,835	18,272,267	4.4%	4.6%	514,765,126

Legislative Council Actions
Taken by Ballot Since the
February 27, 2025 Council Meeting

Requests for Introduction of Legislation:

LR 2430 An Act to Amend Maine’s Good Samaritan Laws

Submitted by: Senator Rachel Talbot Ross
Date: March 12, 2025
Vote: 6-1-0-3 Passed (with Representative Smith recorded as voting against and Senator Stewart, Senator Harrington, and Representative Faulkingham recorded as absent)

LR 2496 An Act to Establish Municipal Cost Components for Unorganized Territory Services to Be Rendered in Fiscal Year 2025-26

Submitted by: Representative Kristen Cloutier
Date: March 25, 2025
Vote: 6-0-0-4 Passed (with Representative Smith, Senator Stewart, Senator Harrington, and Representative Faulkingham recorded as absent)

LR 2510 An Act to Validate Certain Referendum Proceedings Conducted by the City of South Portland

Submitted by: Senator Anne Carney
Date: April 1, 2025
Vote: 6-1-0-3 Passed (with Senator Harrington recorded as voting against and Representative Smith, Senator Stewart, and Representative Faulkingham recorded as absent)

LR 2482 An Act to Ensure Public Access to Conservation Land by Providing Protections from Liability to Landowners

Submitted by: Senator Stacy Brenner
Date: March 24, 2025
Vote: 7-2-0-1 Passed (with Representative Fecteau and Representative Smith recorded as voting against and Representative Gramlich recorded as absent)

**132nd Maine State Legislature
First Regular Session, First Special Session**

As of: 4/23/2025 8:21:12 AM

AFTER DEADLINE BILL REQUESTS

SPONSOR: Rep. Amy Arata

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2513	An Act to Delay Implementation of the 2021 Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code Until No Earlier than January 20, 2029	

SPONSOR: Sen. Sue Bernard

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2494	An Act to Provide Funding to Address the Management of Spruce Budworms	

SPONSOR: Rep. Stephan M. Bunker

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2491	An Act to Extend the Probationary Period for Public Safety Dispatchers	

SPONSOR: Rep. Jim Dill

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2509	An Act to Fund MaineCare	

SPONSOR: Rep. Valli Genevieve Geiger

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2515	An Act to Allow the Plantation of Matinicus to Issue a Revenue Bond for Urgently Needed Repairs to the Plantation's Electrical Grid	

SPONSOR: Rep. Tavis Rock Hasenfus

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2534	An Act to Update the State of Mind Requirement for Certain Provisions of the Law Governing the Crime of Gross Sexual Assault	

SPONSOR: Rep. Holly B. Stover

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2492	An Act to Protect Maine's Coastal Heritage and Economy by Supporting the Maine Sea Grant Program Within the University of Maine System	

SPONSOR: Rep. David Woodsome

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2512	An Act Regarding Posting of Legal Notices and Legal Advertising	

JOINT RESOLUTIONS

SPONSOR: Rep. Anne P. Graham

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2521	JOINT RESOLUTION, URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO EXTEND ENHANCED TAX CREDITS FOR HEALTH INSURANCE PREMIUMS UNDER THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT	

TABLED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

JOINT RESOLUTIONS

SPONSOR: Rep. Mana H. Abdi

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
1978	JOINT RESOLUTION URGING CONGRESS TO RATIFY THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT	Tabled 02/27/25

132nd Maine State Legislature
Addendum
Legislative Council
Requests to Introduce Legislation
First Special Session

Actions Taken After April 23, 2025

SPONSOR: Rep. Amy Arata

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2535	An Act to Ensure Uniformity in the Regulation of PFAS	

REP. RYAN D. FECTEAU
CHAIR

SEN. MATTHEA E.L. DAUGHTRY
VICE-CHAIR

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
SUZANNE M. GRESSER



132nd MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

SEN. TERESA S. PIERCE
SEN. JILL C. DUSON
SEN. HAROLD "TREY" STEWART, III
SEN. MATTHEW HARRINGTON
REP. MATTHEW MOONEN
REP. LORI GRAMLICH
REP. BILLY BOB FAULKINGHAM
REP. KATRINA SMITH

Legislative Council Policy on Legislative Studies for the 132nd Maine Legislature

1. Introduction

On March 22, 2007, the Legislative Council unanimously endorsed revisions to Joint Rule 353 and revisions to Legislative Council policies proposed by a Legislative Council subcommittee established to study the legislative study process. On May 15, 2007, the Legislative Council's proposed revisions to Joint Rule 353 were adopted by the House and the Senate, as amended by the Joint Select Committee on Joint Rules. Joint Rules adopted by each successive legislature have included Joint Rule 353.

Joint Rule 353, Section 11, requires the Legislative Council to adopt policies governing legislative studies at the beginning of each legislative biennium. Pursuant to that authority, the Legislative Council adopts this policy on legislative studies to establish policies and procedures governing the Legislative Council's authorization of legislative studies, conditions on the funding of legislative studies, exceptions to the definition of legislative study, legislative study drafting standards and other provisions necessary to satisfy the requirements of Joint Rule 353.

2. Council authorization of legislative studies

Legislative studies are authorized only upon the approval of a majority of the Legislative Council during its review of the study table, except that approval of 2/3 of the Legislative Council is required to authorize a legislative study that is required to submit a report to a subsequent Legislature.

3. Funding of legislative studies

The Legislative Council shall establish a study line in a legislative account to which legislative studies are budgeted and study expenses charged. That study line must include funds appropriated by the Legislature for those purposes and funds allocated by the Legislature from other departmental accounts to the legislative account for the purposes of funding a legislative study. The Legislative Council shall also establish budgets and provide sufficient money from the Legislative account for studies to be conducted by joint standing committees, joint select committees and other study committees of the Legislature. The Legislative Council shall provide sufficient money to enable the committees to reasonably conduct and complete the requirements of the studies.

4. Acceptance of private contributions to support legislative studies

Private financial or in-kind contributions to support the work of legislative studies may not be accepted from any party having a pecuniary or other vested interest in the outcome of the study. Any person, other than a state agency, authorized and desiring to make a financial or in-kind contribution must certify to the Legislative

Council that it has no pecuniary or other vested interest in the outcome of the study. All such contributions are subject to the approval of the Legislative Council. All contributions accepted must be forwarded to the Executive Director of the Legislative Council along with an accounting record that includes the amount of contributions, the date the contributions were received, from whom the contributions were received and the purpose of and any limitation on the use of those contributions. The Executive Director of the Legislative Council shall administer the contributions and shall notify the chairs of the legislative study committee when those contributions have been received. If funding for a legislative study is contingent upon receipt of private contributions and sufficient contributions have not been received within 30 days after the effective date of the study instrument, then no meetings of the study are authorized and no study-related expenses of any kind may be incurred or reimbursed.

5. Exceptions to Joint Rule 353

The following limited exemptions to Joint Rule 353 are provided.

- A. Boards and commissions created in statute and codified in Title 5, chapter 379 are exempted from the provisions of this Joint Rule, except that the use of new legislative financial resources or Legislative Council staffing by a new board or commission or as the result of an amendment to an existing board or commission must be referred to a special study table for review and approval by the Legislative Council regarding the use of those resources;
- B. Legislation directing an agency or a group of stakeholders to study and report to the Legislature on any matter may include the appointment of not more than two members of the Legislature, provided that the report of the agency or group is required to be submitted within the biennium in which the legislation is introduced, that there are no other legislative appointments required, that the legislators are appointed consistent with subsection 3 and that no other legislative resources are required. Legislation creating such groups must be referred to a special study table for review and approval by the Legislative Council regarding the use of those resources.
- C. Notwithstanding Joint Rule 353, section 8, a joint select committee established in a manner consistent with Joint Rule 351 may, if so authorized in joint order establishing the joint select committee, introduce legislation to implement its recommendations.

6. Council review of committee requests to vary from Joint Rule 353

Pursuant to Joint Rule 353, the Legislative Council must specifically review and approve as an exception any legislative study that is inconsistent with that joint rule.

7. Authority and effective date

Pursuant to its authority under Joint Rule 353, Section 11, the Legislative Council hereby adopts this policy governing legislative studies on this 24th day of April, 2025.

This policy takes effect immediately.

BY: _____
Suzanne M. Gresser, Executive Director