

REP. RYAN D. FECTEAU
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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
June 24, 2025
Approved October 23, 2025**

CALL TO ORDER

Speaker Fecteau called the June 24, 2025 meeting of the 132nd Legislative Council to order at 3:27 p.m. in the Legislative Council Chamber.

ROLL CALL

Senators:	President Daughtry (arrived after roll called), Senator Pierce, Senator Duson, Senator Stewart (via Zoom) and Senator Harrington (via Zoom)
Representatives:	Speaker Fecteau, Representative Moonen, Representative Gramlich, and Representative Smith
Absent:	Representative Faulkingham
Legislative Officers:	Robert Hunt, Clerk of the House Jared Roy, Assistant Secretary of the Senate 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

Speaker Fecteau convened the meeting at 3:27 p.m. with a quorum of members present.

SUMMARY OF THE APRIL 24, 2025 MEETING OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Motion: That the Meeting Summary for April 24, 2025, be accepted and placed on file. Motion by Senator Pierce. Second by Senator Duson. **Motion passed (8-0-0-2**, with President Daughtry and Representative Faulkingham recorded as absent).

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL OFFICE DIRECTORS

None

OLD BUSINESS

Item #1: Council Actions Taken by Ballot

Requests for Introduction of Legislation:

LR 2541 Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Chapter 379: Compensation for Impacts to High-Value Agricultural Land from Solar Energy Development

Submitted by: Department of Environmental Protection

Date: May 9, 2025

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

Legislative Council Decisions:

Motion: That the Legislative Council extend the end date of one limited-period Grade 6 position from June 7, 2025 through the end of the Second Regular Session of the 132nd Legislature, to be implemented by allotting unspent balances in the Legislative General Fund account; and further, that the Legislative Council direct the Executive Director to prepare and submit implementing documentation reflecting this decision of the Legislative Council to the Bureau of the Budget.

Motion by: President Daughtry Second: Speaker Fecteau

Date: June 9, 2025

Vote: 10-0-0-0 Passed

Motion: That, upon recommendation of the Legislative Budget Subcommittee, the Legislative Council authorize and increase in the number of weeks of one Executive Secretary position in the Office of the Clerk of the House from 42 weeks to 52 weeks; and further,

The Legislative Council authorize an adjustment to the position count for the position from .808 FTE to one legislative position count in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 1664; and further,

The Legislative Council directs the Executive Director to prepare and submit implementing language reflecting the decisions of the Legislative Council to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs on behalf of the Legislative Council for inclusion in the committee amendment to the Governor's budget bill, LD 210.

Motion by: President Daughtry Second: Speaker Fecteau

Date: June 9, 2025

Vote: 10-0-0-0 Passed

Motion: That, upon recommendation of the Legislative Budget Subcommittee, the Legislative Council authorize the following changes to the baseline budget for the Legislature:

Reduce funding for the Miscellaneous Studies – Legislative General Fund account by \$4,500, and increase funding for the Legislative General Fund account by \$4,500, for the Advisory Committee on the Fund to Address PFAS Contamination; and further

That the Legislative Council directs the Executive Director to prepare and submit implementing language reflecting the decisions of the Legislative Council to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs on behalf of the Legislative Council for inclusion in the committee amendment to the Governor’s budget bill, LD 210.

Motion by: Speaker Fecteau Second: Representative Moonen
Date: June 9, 2025
Vote: 10-0-0-0 Passed

Motion: That, upon recommendation of the Legislative Budget Subcommittee, the Legislative Council authorize the following adjustments to the Legislature’s budget:

Appropriate \$422,126 in FY 26 and \$432,331 in FY 27 for video and audio streaming, video conferencing, software subscriptions and other technology costs, and lapse an amount in each fiscal year of the 2026-2027 biennium from unspent balances in the legislative accounts sufficient to offset the additional General Fund appropriation; and further

That the Legislative Council directs the Executive Director to prepare and submit implementing language reflecting the decisions of the Legislative Council to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs on behalf of the Legislative Council for inclusion in the committee amendment to the Governor’s budget bill, LD 210.

Motion by: Speaker Fecteau Second: Representative Faulkingham
Date: June 9, 2025
Vote: 10-0-0-0 Passed

NEW BUSINESS

Item #1: Consideration of Legislative Study Requests

In accordance with the protocols for review of legislative study proposals that were included in the meeting materials, the Legislative Council considered and voted on the legislative study requests. Of the 30 proposals included on the list, the council authorized 8 proposed studies, rejected 7 proposed studies, and took no action on 15 proposed studies. The Legislative Council’s actions are included on the attached list.

Item #2: Proposed Second Session Cloture Schedule and Related Dates

Mr. Charbonneau, Revisor of Statutes, presented the proposed Second Session cloture schedule and explained the related dates to the Legislative Council.

Motion: That the Legislative Council approves the Second Session cloture schedule and related dates. Motion by Senator Pierce. Second by Rep. Moonen. Motion passed unanimously (8-0-0-2, with Senator Trey Stewart, and Representative Faulkingham recorded as absent).

Item #3: Consideration of Use of Social Media to Expand Access to Legislative Proceedings

Speaker Fecteau explained that earlier in the session, Rep. Tuell had sponsored a joint order that sought to expand access to legislative proceedings by increasing the number of platforms to which legislative proceedings would be streamed. Speaker Fecteau said that he had had a conversation with Rep. Tuell, and they both agreed that the best venue for the discussion would be the Legislative Council, and therefore it is on today's agenda, and invited Ms. Gresser to elaborate on the issue.

Ms. Gresser explained that she had spoken with Rep. Tuell, and his proposal is not to reinvent the access that the Legislature is currently providing; rather, Rep. Tuell proposes to expand the reach of that access by also streaming to additional platforms. Rep. Moonen recalled watching committee meetings streams on YouTube during the 130th Legislature, said that it seemed to work well, and asked why that changed. Ms. Gresser said that streaming to YouTube was more labor intensive, which was possible because only a few committees streamed simultaneously during the 130th. Ms. Gresser noted that an additional issue was the fact that when the Legislature streamed to YouTube, it did not have control or ownership of the content—the benefit of Rep. Tuell's idea is that the Legislature would retain control over the content, and could additionally provide access via additional platforms. President Daughtry said she would prioritize YouTube as the initial additional platform to which to stream, since once on YouTube, it would also be accessible on other platforms. Speaker Fecteau raised concerns about the performance and functionality of the current streaming process that is utilized by the Legislature, and expressed a desire for the streaming to work in full-screen mode on cell phones, and wondered what other Legislatures use for their streaming needs, and what relative costs might be. Ms. Gresser indicated she would look into the members' questions and provide an update.

With no other public business to consider or further announcements, the Legislative Council adjourned at 4:41 p.m.

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