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STATE OF MAINE  
ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE  
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

TO: Senator Catherine Breen, Senate Chair  
Representative Drew Gattine, House Chair  
Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

FROM: Senator Mark Lawrence, Senate Chair <sup>ML</sup>  
Representative Seth Berry, House Chair <sup>SB</sup>  
Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology

DATE: March 6, 2020

SUBJECT: Recommendations on the Governor’s Proposed Supplemental Budget (LR 3206)

The Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology has reviewed those portions of the Governor’s Proposed Supplemental Budget (LR 3206) that fall within the committee's jurisdiction. Attached please find the “EUT Part A Report-back Template” on which we have recorded the Committee vote on the individual budget initiatives.

In addition, the EUT committee voted to recommend to AFA that funding for two broadband related bills, LD 173 (OTP-A) and LD 2021 (OTP-A/ONTP), which were both reported out of the EUT committee, be included in the supplemental budget:

- EUT voted 10-0 to recommend funding for LD 173, An Act To Provide Critical Communications for Family Farms, Businesses and Residences by Strategic Public Investment in High-speed Internet and Broadband Infrastructure; and
- EUT voted 7-3 to recommend funding for LD 2021, An Act To Provide Funding for Broadband Internet Infrastructure in Unserved and Underserved Areas.

The fiscal notes for the EUT committee amendments to LD 173 and LD 2021 are attached for your reference.

Please let us know if we can provide any additional information or assistance in connection with budget items related to the agencies under our jurisdiction. Thank you for your consideration of our recommendations.

Cc: Members, Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology  
Members, Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

Sec. A-10. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

**EFFICIENCY MAINE TRUST**

**Efficiency Maine Trust Z100**

Initiative: Adjusts allocation in the Personal Services and All Other line categories to reflect the change in the collection of assessments on gas utilities from being collected by the State and sent to the Efficiency Maine Trust to a direct assessment by the Efficiency Maine Trust pursuant to Public Law 2019, chapter 313.

Ref. #: \_\_\_\_\_ Committee Vote: 10-0 in AFA Vote: \_\_\_\_\_

| <b>OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS</b>       | <b>2018-19</b> | <b>2019-20</b>       | <b>2020-21</b>       |
|------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Personal Services                        | \$0            | \$8,306              | \$9,375              |
| All Other                                | \$0            | (\$2,448,306)        | (\$2,443,375)        |
| <b>OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL</b> | <b>\$0</b>     | <b>(\$2,440,000)</b> | <b>(\$2,434,000)</b> |

**Justification:**

Prior to the passage of Public Law 2019, chapter 313, assessments on natural gas energy efficiency has flowed from the utilities through state accounts and then paid out to the Efficiency Maine Trust upon request. Chapter 313 allows a direct assessment by the Efficiency Maine Trust which eliminates the assessments in state accounts. Pursuant to 5 MRS §17001, sub-§40, employees in positions when the Efficiency Maine Trust became a quasi-independent agency could elect to remain state employees. Currently, there is one employee remaining that is paid through the state payroll system. A Memorandum of Understanding between the Efficiency Maine Trust (EMT) and the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, General Government Service Center (GGSC), the GGSC will bill EMT for the cost of the remaining state position and related All Other. See also FA16 in umbrella PUU00.

**EFFICIENCY MAINE TRUST**

| <b>DEPARTMENT TOTALS</b>            | <b>2018-19</b> | <b>2019-20</b>       | <b>2020-21</b>       |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <b>OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS</b>  | <b>\$0</b>     | <b>(\$2,440,000)</b> | <b>(\$2,434,000)</b> |
| <b>DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS</b> | <b>\$0</b>     | <b>(\$2,440,000)</b> | <b>(\$2,434,000)</b> |

**Sec. A-13. Appropriations and allocations.**

The following appropriations and allocations are made.

**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT**

**Governor's Energy Office Z122**

Initiative: Continues one Public Service Coordinator II position previously established by Financial Order 000647 F0 and reduces All Other to fund the position.

Ref. #: \_\_\_\_\_ Committee Vote: 9-1 in AFA Vote: \_\_\_\_\_

*opposed:  
Rep. Foster*

| GENERAL FUND                  | 2018-19    | 2019-20    | 2020-21     |
|-------------------------------|------------|------------|-------------|
| POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT | 0.000      | 0.000      | 1.000       |
| Personal Services             | \$0        | \$0        | \$129,298   |
| All Other                     | \$0        | \$0        | (\$129,298) |
| <b>GENERAL FUND TOTAL</b>     | <b>\$0</b> | <b>\$0</b> | <b>\$0</b>  |

**Justification:**

This initiative establishes one Public Service Coordinator II position to serve as a senior analyst and advisor to the Director of the Governor's Energy Office (GEO). The senior analyst is a key member of the GEO and will provide support and analysis of data on a wide variety of energy topics.

**Governor's Energy Office Z122**

Initiative: Continues one Public Service Coordinator II position previously established by Financial Order 000558 F0 and reduces All Other to fund the position.

Ref. #: \_\_\_\_\_ Committee Vote: 9-1 in AFA Vote: \_\_\_\_\_

*opposed:  
Rep. Foster*

| GENERAL FUND                  | 2018-19    | 2019-20    | 2020-21     |
|-------------------------------|------------|------------|-------------|
| POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT | 0.000      | 0.000      | 1.000       |
| Personal Services             | \$0        | \$0        | \$125,091   |
| All Other                     | \$0        | \$0        | (\$125,091) |
| <b>GENERAL FUND TOTAL</b>     | <b>\$0</b> | <b>\$0</b> | <b>\$0</b>  |

**Justification:**

This initiative continues one Public Service Coordinator II position and makes the position permanent to serve as an analyst and advisor to the Director of the Governor's Energy Office (GEO). The analyst is a key member of the GEO and will provide support and analysis of data on a wide variety of energy topics.

**Public Advocate 0410**

Initiative: Continues one Economic Analyst position previously established by Financial Order 00670 F0 and makes the position permanent as authorized in Public Law 2019, chapter 226.

Ref. #: \_\_\_\_\_ Committee Vote: 9-1 in AFA Vote: \_\_\_\_\_

*opposed:  
Rep. Foster*

| OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS | 2018-19 | 2019-20 | 2020-21 |
|-----------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
|                             |         |         |         |

|                                          |            |                |                 |
|------------------------------------------|------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Personal Services                        | \$0        | \$7,964        | \$31,394        |
| <b>OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL</b> | <b>\$0</b> | <b>\$7,964</b> | <b>\$31,394</b> |

**Public Advocate 0410**

Initiative: Establishes one Secretary Supervisor position authorized in Public Law 2019, chapter 226.

Ref. #: \_\_\_\_\_ Committee Vote: 8-2 in AFA Vote: \_\_\_\_\_

*opposed:  
Sen. Dow  
Rep. Foster*

|                                          | 2018-19    | 2019-20         | 2020-21         |
|------------------------------------------|------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| <b>OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS</b>       |            |                 |                 |
| POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT            | 0.000      | 1.000           | 1.000           |
| Personal Services                        | \$0        | \$17,674        | \$73,979        |
| All Other                                | \$0        | \$5,160         | \$5,160         |
| <b>OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL</b> | <b>\$0</b> | <b>\$22,834</b> | <b>\$79,139</b> |

**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT**

|                                     | 2018-19    | 2019-20         | 2020-21          |
|-------------------------------------|------------|-----------------|------------------|
| <b>DEPARTMENT TOTALS</b>            |            |                 |                  |
| GENERAL FUND                        | \$0        | \$0             | \$0              |
| OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS         | \$0        | \$30,798        | \$110,533        |
| <b>DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS</b> | <b>\$0</b> | <b>\$30,798</b> | <b>\$110,533</b> |



# 129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 173

LR 371(02)

## An Act To Promote Economic Development and Critical Communications for Family Farms, Businesses and Residences by Strategic Public Investment in High-speed Internet

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment " "  
Committee: Energy, Utilities and Technology  
Fiscal Note Required: Yes

### Fiscal Note

|                                   | FY 2019-20 | FY 2020-21    | Projections<br>FY 2021-22 | Projections<br>FY 2022-23 |
|-----------------------------------|------------|---------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Net Cost (Savings)</b>         |            |               |                           |                           |
| General Fund                      | \$0        | \$7,010,000   | \$8,200,000               | \$8,250,000               |
| <b>Appropriations/Allocations</b> |            |               |                           |                           |
| Other Special Revenue Funds       | \$0        | \$7,010,000   | \$8,200,000               | \$8,250,000               |
| <b>Revenue</b>                    |            |               |                           |                           |
| General Fund                      | \$0        | (\$7,010,000) | (\$8,200,000)             | (\$8,250,000)             |
| Other Special Revenue Funds       | \$0        | \$7,010,000   | \$8,200,000               | \$8,250,000               |

#### Fiscal Detail and Notes

This bill transfers 33% of the sales and use tax revenue related to marketplace facilitated sales from the General Fund to the ConnectME Authority. The transfer will reduce General Fund revenue by \$7,010,000 and increase Other Special Revenue Funds revenue by a corresponding amount starting in fiscal year 2020-21. The bill also includes an accompanying allocation to the Office of Broadband Development within the ConnectME Authority in the Department of Economic and Community Development to allow for expenditure of the funds.



# 129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 2021

LR 2874(01)

## An Act To Provide Funding for Broadband Internet Infrastructure in Unserved and Underserved Areas

### Preliminary Fiscal Impact Statement for Original Bill

Sponsor: Sen. Herbig of Waldo

Committee: Energy, Utilities and Technology

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

### Preliminary Fiscal Impact Statement

|                                   | FY 2019-20 | FY 2020-21   | Projections<br>FY 2021-22 | Projections<br>FY 2022-23 |
|-----------------------------------|------------|--------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Net Cost (Savings)</b>         |            |              |                           |                           |
| General Fund                      | \$0        | \$15,000,000 | \$0                       | \$0                       |
| <b>Appropriations/Allocations</b> |            |              |                           |                           |
| General Fund                      | \$0        | \$15,000,000 | \$0                       | \$0                       |

#### Fiscal Detail and Notes

This bill includes a one-time General Fund appropriation in fiscal year 2020-21 to the ConnectME Authority for the provision of broadband Internet infrastructure in unserved and underserved areas.