

SENATE

GLENN "CHIP" CURRY, DISTRICT 11, CHAIR  
JOSEPH E. RAFFERTY, II, DISTRICT 34  
SCOTT W. CYRWAY, DISTRICT 16



HOUSE

TIFFANY ROBERTS, SOUTH BERWICK, CHAIR  
SARAH PEBWORTH, BLUE HILL  
VALLI D. GEIGER, ROCKLAND  
TAVIS ROCK HASENFUS, READFIELD  
SUSAN BERNARD, CARIBOU  
SUSAN M.W. AUSTIN, GRAY  
JOHN "JACK" E. DUCHARME, III, MADISON  
AMANDA N. COLLAMORE, PITTSFIELD  
JOHN ANDREWS, PARIS  
RAEGAN F. LAROCHELLE, AUGUSTA

RACHEL OLSON, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST  
EVA REED, COMMITTEE CLERK

STATE OF MAINE  
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
COMMITTEE ON INNOVATION, DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT AND BUSINESS

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

FROM: Senator Chip Curry, Senate Chair *Chip Curry* (red)  
Representative Tiffany Roberts, House Chair *Tiffany Roberts* (red)  
Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic  
Advancement and Business

RE: LD 1995, General Fund 2022-2023 Supplemental Budget

DATE: March 17, 2022

As chairs of the Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business, we write to convey to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs the recommendations of the Innovation, Development Economic Advancement and Business Committee regarding items within its jurisdiction in the proposed supplemental budget, LD 1995.

Please find attached the report forms with initiatives applicable to the IDEA Committee.

All members of the committee were present for the review and discussion, with the exception of Senator Rafferty. The committee members present voted to approve all initiatives and language parts unanimously with the following two exceptions:

1. Ref. #948: This initiative provides headcount for one Principal Consumer Credit Examiner position and adjusts funding between programs to correct an error in Public Law 2021, chapter 357. Representative Andrews voted against this initiative.
2. Ref. #949: This initiative provides funding for additional legal support from the Office of the Attorney General. Representative Andrews voted against this initiative.

Additionally, although the changes to the Job Creation Through Educational Opportunity Program in language Part H is not within the Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business Committee's jurisdiction, the committee would like to extend its support of the changes.

The committee also voted unanimously to recommend the inclusion, in the supplemental budget, of the following LD, which was unanimously supported by the committee but has not been reported out yet.

- LD 1885, *An Act To Increase Maine's Veterinary Workforce*, as amended

Thank you for your consideration of the recommendations of the Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business. Our committee analyst will work with your committee analyst to provide language to implement any of our recommendations, should you choose to move forward with them. We are available to answer any questions that you may have on our recommendations.

cc: Members, Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business  
Commissioner Heather Johnson, DECD  
Commissioner Anne L. Head, DPFR  
William Norbert, Governmental Affairs & Communications Manager, FAME  
Yellow Light Breen, President & CEO, Maine Development Foundation  
Maureen Dawson, OFPR  
Rachel Tremblay, OFPR  
Rachel Olson, OPLA

Sec. A-8. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

**ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, DEPARTMENT OF**

**Administration - Economic and Community Development 0069**

Initiative: Provides funding for the increased cost of centralized financial and human resources services provided by the Department of Administrative and Financial Services.

Ref. #: 289	Committee Vote: <u>12-0</u>	AFA Vote: _____		
	<i>absent - Sen. Rafferty</i>			
<b>GENERAL FUND</b>		<b>2020-21</b>	<b>2021-22</b>	<b>2022-23</b>
All Other		\$0	\$9,198	\$9,198
<b>GENERAL FUND TOTAL</b>		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
		\$0	\$9,198	\$9,198

**Justification:**

Service Centers within the Department of Administrative and Financial Services provide centralized accounting, payroll, budgeting and human resources services to departments and agencies. Service Centers are established as internal service funds intended to recoup their costs through billings to departments and agencies for services provided. The Service Centers have experienced increased Personal Services costs primarily associated with recent salary increases in collective bargaining agreements and this has resulted in increases in billing rates to departments and agencies.

**Administration - Economic and Community Development 0069**

Initiative: Provides one-time funding for the Department of Economic and Community Development to cover certain operating expenses for the Loring Development Authority of Maine.

Ref. #: 290	One Time	Committee Vote: <u>12-0</u>	AFA Vote: _____		
		<i>absent - Sen. Rafferty</i>			
<b>OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS</b>			<b>2020-21</b>	<b>2021-22</b>	<b>2022-23</b>
All Other			\$0	\$970,100	\$0
<b>OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL</b>			<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
			\$0	\$970,100	\$0

**Justification:**

Decreased revenues and the lack of business attraction over the past two years have impacted Loring Development's ability to pay operating expenses necessary to keep the facility operating. Operating expenses include payments to Limestone Water and Sewer, utility payments necessary to keep buildings heated, salary expenses and debt service payments.

**Business Development 0585**

Initiative: Provides funding for Department of Economic and Community Development to administer programs for marketing and business attraction efforts on behalf of Loring Development Authority of Maine.

Ref. #: 292		Committee Vote: <u>12-0</u>	AFA Vote: _____		
		<i>absent - Sen. Rafferty</i>			
<b>GENERAL FUND</b>			<b>2020-21</b>	<b>2021-22</b>	<b>2022-23</b>
All Other			\$0	\$200,000	\$200,000

GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$0	\$200,000	\$200,000
--------------------	-----	-----------	-----------

**Justification:**

This initiative increases All Other funding to allow Department of Economic and Community Development to issue Request For Proposal's and administer programs for marketing the property at the former Loring Air Force Base in Limestone as well as consulting services for business attraction efforts.

**Maine Economic Growth Council 0727**

Initiative: Provides funding to accommodate the increased costs associated with staff support for the Maine Economic Growth Council.

Ref. #: 294

Committee Vote: 12-0

AFA Vote: \_\_\_\_\_

*absent Sen. Rafferty*

<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2020-21</b>	<b>2021-22</b>	<b>2022-23</b>
All Other	\$0	\$35,000	\$35,000
<b>GENERAL FUND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$35,000</b>	<b>\$35,000</b>

**Justification:**

This initiative increases All Other funding to align with anticipated expenditures. Pursuant to Maine Revised Statutes, Title 10, section 929-B, the Maine Development Foundation provides staff support for the Maine Economic Growth Council in the development of a long-range plan, goals, benchmarks and alternative strategies for a sustainable state economy.

**ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, DEPARTMENT OF**

<b>DEPARTMENT TOTALS</b>	<b>2020-21</b>	<b>2021-22</b>	<b>2022-23</b>
<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$244,198</b>	<b>\$244,198</b>
<b>OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$970,100</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$1,214,298</b>	<b>\$244,198</b>

**Sec. A-15. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and allocations are made.

**FINANCE AUTHORITY OF MAINE**

**Educational Opportunity Tax Credit Marketing Fund Z174**

Initiative: Provides funds to market the Job Creation Through Educational Opportunity Program throughout the State.

Ref. #: 459

Committee Vote: 12-0 AFA Vote: \_\_\_\_\_

*absent Sen Rafferty*

<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2020-21</b>	<b>2021-22</b>	<b>2022-23</b>
All Other	\$0	\$0	\$26,500
<b>GENERAL FUND TOTAL</b>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$0	\$0	\$26,500

**Justification:**

This initiative provides funding for the Finance Authority of Maine to market the Job Creation Through Educational Opportunity Program. A modification to the tax credit associated with the program is proposed in this budget.

**FINANCE AUTHORITY OF MAINE**

<b>DEPARTMENT TOTALS</b>	<b>2020-21</b>	<b>2021-22</b>	<b>2022-23</b>
<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	\$0	\$0	\$26,500
<b>DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS</b>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$0	\$0	\$26,500

Sec. A-31. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

**PROFESSIONAL AND FINANCIAL REGULATION, DEPARTMENT OF**

**Licensing and Enforcement 0352**

Initiative: Provides headcount for one Principal Consumer Credit Examiner position and adjusts funding between programs to correct an error in Public Law 2021, chapter 357.

Ref. #: 948 Committee Vote: 11-1 AFA Vote: \_\_\_\_\_

*opposed - Rep. Andrews  
absent - Sen. Zeffert*

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
Personal Services	\$0	(\$78,377)	(\$109,710)
<b>OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>(\$78,377)</b>	<b>(\$109,710)</b>

**Justification:**

Public Law 2021, chapter 357 intended to establish this position on a permanent basis, but did not include headcount. This change package includes the headcount and corrects the allocation for Personal Services which was mistakenly identified as Licensing and Enforcement 0352 instead of the Bureau of Consumer Credit Protection 0091.

**Licensing and Enforcement 0352**

Initiative: Provides funding for additional legal support from the Office of the Attorney General.

Ref. #: 949 Committee Vote: 11-1 AFA Vote: \_\_\_\_\_

*opposed - Rep. Andrews  
absent - Sen. Zeffert*

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
All Other	\$0	\$38,946	\$142,348
<b>OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$38,946</b>	<b>\$142,348</b>

**Justification:**

In response to the September 28, 2021 Maine Supreme Judicial Court decision - Docket: Ken-20-308, the Office is requesting to retain additional legal support to implement the Supreme Court ruling that legal advisory and investigatory functions must be handled by different legal counsel in an adjudicatory hearing.

**Licensing and Enforcement 0352**

Initiative: Eliminates one vacant Office Specialist I position and reduces the hours of one vacant Office Specialist II position to fund the reorganization of one Comprehensive Health Planner I position and one Regulatory Health Compliance Agent position from part-time to full-time.

Ref. #: 950 Committee Vote: 12-0 AFA Vote: \_\_\_\_\_

*absent - Sen. Zeffert*

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
Personal Services	\$0	(\$26,804)	(\$467)
<b>OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>(\$26,804)</b>	<b>(\$467)</b>

**Justification:**

Public Law 2021, chapter 65 (LD1115) established one part-time Regulatory Health Compliance Agent position to manage the increase in workload associated with the regulation of pharmacists' authority to dispense HIV prevention drugs. Public Law 2021, chapter 271 (LD1293) established one part-time Comprehensive Health Planner I position to manage increases in applicants for certification to administer adult injections of certain drugs approved for the treatment of mental illness and substance use disorder as well as the investigation of complaints. This initiative is proposing to supplement these two authorized part-time positions using two existing vacancies to create two full-time positions that will enable the program to manage the increased workload as intended, as well as give the program the ability to attract more qualified candidates through recruitment of two full-time positions rather than two part-time positions. It will also address the program's need for additional support with enforcement, compliance review and complaint investigation.

---

**PROFESSIONAL AND FINANCIAL REGULATION, DEPARTMENT OF**

<b>DEPARTMENT TOTALS</b>	<b>2020-21</b>	<b>2021-22</b>	<b>2022-23</b>
<b>OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>(\$66,235)</b>	<b>\$32,171</b>
<b>DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>(\$66,235)</b>	<b>\$32,171</b>

12-0 "in"  
absent - Sen Rafferty

**PART V**

**Sec. V-1. Transfer from General Fund unappropriated surplus; Department of Economic and Community Development – Admin account.** Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the State Controller shall transfer \$970,100 from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the Department of Economic and Community Development - Admin, Other Special Revenue Funds account within the Department of Economic and Community Development on or before June 30, 2022 for the purpose of covering certain operating expenses of the Loring Development Authority of Maine.

**PART V  
SUMMARY**

This Part requires the transfer of \$970,100 in fiscal year 2021-22 from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the Department of Economic and Community Development - Admin, Other Special Revenue Funds account. The funds will cover certain operating expenses associated with Loring Development Authority of Maine established in Title 5, section 13080.

**PART CC**

12-0 "in"  
absent - Sen Rafferty

**Sec. CC-1. 10 MRSA §1019, sub-§2** is amended to read:

- 2. Criteria.** For an applicant to participate in the nursing education loan repayment program established under subsection 1, the applicant must:
  - A. Be a nurse;
  - B. Be currently enrolled in a master's or doctoral degree program in nursing or have completed a master's or doctoral degree in nursing;
  - C. Possess an outstanding education loan relating to the master's or doctoral nursing degree; and
  - D. Sign a statement of intent in a form acceptable to the authority to work as full-time nursing faculty in a nursing education program in the State for a minimum of ~~5~~3 years after acceptance into the nursing education loan repayment program.



**Sec. CC-2. 10 MRSA §1019, sub-§4** is amended to read:

1. **Administration.** The nursing education loan repayment program and the nursing education loan repayment fund are administered by the authority. The authority shall repay the loan of an applicant who meets the criteria in subsection 2 in the amount of up to \$20,000 for a master's degree and up to \$40,000 for a doctoral degree. The authority may adopt rules to carry out the purposes of this subchapter. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are ~~major substantive rules~~ routine technical rules pursuant to Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

**Sec. CC-3. PL 2021, c. 483, Pt. H, §1**, is amended to read:

**Sec. H-1. Maine Health Care Provider Loan Repayment Pilot Program.** The Finance Authority of Maine shall establish the Maine Health Care Provider Loan Repayment Pilot Program, referred to in this section as "the program," for certain health care professionals who commit to living and working in Maine for at least 3 years. Under the program, the authority shall pay up to \$25,000 per year and, in aggregate, the lesser of \$75,000 and 50% of the recipient's outstanding loan balance. The program terminates when the funds allocated pursuant to this Part to the Maine Health Care Provider Loan Repayment Program Fund established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 12953 are fully expended or by December 31, 2024~~6~~, whichever occurs first, unless other funding is made available to carry out the purpose of the program. Costs and expenses of maintaining, servicing and administering the Maine Health Care Provider Loan Repayment Program Fund and of administering the program may be paid out of amounts in the fund.

The authority shall adopt routine technical rules pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A to carry out the purposes of the program, including application requirements and program eligibility.

## **PART CC SUMMARY**

This Part amends the Nurse Educators Loan Repayment Program by changing the required program commitment period from a minimum of five years to three years and by making any program rules adopted routine technical rules instead of major substantive rules. This Part also amends the date by which funds in the Maine Health Care Provider Loan Repayment Pilot Program must be expended.