
OPEGA Review Request Form

Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability

Please complete this form with information that is as specific as possible. Use additional pages as necessary. If you wish to submit your request in a letter please include as many of the details asked for on this form as possible. You may be contacted by OPEGA and asked for additional information. If you have questions about the form or the request process, please contact OPEGA at 207-287-1901.

1. What is the name of the department, program or function that you want OPEGA to review/audit?

I, Rep. Jeffrey Timberlake, would like to formally request that OPEGA review/audit the Fund for Healthy Maine. I know a majority of the money used to fund this program comes from the tobacco settlement, but I would like to know how much taxpayer money is included as well.

2. What concerns have led you to request an OPEGA review?

The Fund for Healthy Maine receives a significant amount of taxpayer dollars annually. As a member of the appropriations committee, I have sought answers to my questions, but have been unsuccessful. I have not been provided with a precise breakdown of how the money is spent. Maine taxpayers deserve to know how their money is being used to ensure that it is being prioritized properly.

3. What specific questions would you like an OPEGA review to answer?

1. How much money is given to the Fund for Healthy Maine annually?
2. Does appropriated money go into a separate bank account?
3. How much money is spent on administrative costs annually?
4. Of the allocated money, how much is spent on projects/programs for Mainers?
5. What happens to the money that is unspent?
6. How much money is allocated for Planned Parenthood?
7. Does the Fund for Healthy Maine know where/how Planned Parenthood spends those funds?
8. Does the Legislature supplement the Fund For Healthy Maine tobacco settlement money? If so, is there a history of the allocations?
9. Is there a list of recipients who have received Fund for Healthy Maine money? How much of those funds were not spent and were returned to the Fund for Healthy Maine?

4. What potential beneficial outcomes do you expect may come from OPEGA performing this review?

I believe that by conducting this review, money given to the Fund for Healthy Maine by the Legislature will be better prioritized. It is my hope that this review will help the Fund for Healthy Maine better serve the Maine taxpayer.

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5. Have you pursued other avenues to address your concerns?

I have asked the staff at DHHS and Appropriations to supply me with this information on numerous occasions over the last year. I have only received pieces of information, and have also been told they cannot answer all of my questions. The Fund For Healthy Maine receives roughly \$50 million annually, but there seems to be no real oversight as to where that money is actually spent.

6. What else would you like to add to help the Legislature's Government Oversight Committee and OPEGA understand your concern?

As a member of appropriations, I have a real concern that this money is not being spent properly. Unless OPEGA gets involved, I do not believe I will ever get the answers to my questions and concerns.

7. Please provide your contact information so that we can follow up on this request with you. If you wish to remain anonymous please check the box and OPEGA will keep your contact information confidential.

Please check this box if you are a Legislator and are submitting this at the request of a constituent.
