

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

Margaret Rotundo, Senate Chair

Melanie Sachs, House Chair

Justin Purvis, Committee Clerk: 287-1635 afa@legislature.maine.gov

LD 2214 "An Act to Make Supplemental Appropriations and Allocations from the General Fund and Other Funds for the Expenditures of State Government and to Change Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 2024 and June 30, 2025"

PUBLIC HEARING SCHEDULE

The proposed budget initiatives and language may be viewed on the Revisor of Statute’s website:

<https://legislature.maine.gov/12436>

Testimony will be taken on all Part A Initiatives and Language Parts except where noted in the detailed schedule

Persons wanting to offer testimony to a committee may do so by attending the meeting in person in the committee room or by registering to testify over Zoom using the testimony submission portal at the link shown below. Generally, registration is required no later than 30 minutes prior to scheduled start of that day’s hearing(s). Once that registration is complete, you will receive additional information regarding acquiring a Zoom meeting link that can be used to join the meeting remotely during the public hearing.

<https://www.mainelegislature.org/testimony/>

IMPORTANT: ZOOM TESTIMONY SIGN UP AND WRITTEN TESTIMONY SUBMITTAL WILL BE BROKEN UP BY SCHEDULED START TIME SO PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU SIGN UP OR SUBMIT YOUR TESTIMONY FOR THE DAY AND TIME THAT INCLUDES THE PROGRAM OR LANGUAGE RELATED TO YOUR TESTIMONY

If you want to testify in person make sure you note the date and time of the hearing containing your targeted program or language part. There is no preregistration for in-person oral testimony. Please sign up with the Committee Clerk for the hearing block that pertains to your topic. Testimony submitted through the on-line portal will be printed and given to the committee members but if you have not submitted testimony online and want written testimony passed out to the committees at the time you testify bring 40 copies to hand to the Clerk when you are called to the podium.

Persons with special needs wishing to participate in a Legislative hearing who require accommodations should notify the Legislative Information Office as soon as possible: 207-287-1692, FAX 207-287-1580, lio@legislature.maine.gov.

You may access the livestream (or archive) by going to the date of the committee meeting on the Legislature’s Calendar and clicking on the microphone

<https://legislature.maine.gov/Calendar/>

ACTUAL START TIMES MAY BE DELAYED DUE TO TECHNICAL ISSUES OR PRIOR HEARING BLOCKS TAKING LONGER THAN PLANNED

2:00 PM Tuesday, February 20, 2024
Programs and Language Parts Under the Jurisdiction of the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs Only:
NOTE: Language and Initiatives related to reimbursement for the Property Tax Stabilization are not included in this hearing . The proposal was vetted under LD 646
Treasurer of the State, Office of Debt Service
Administrative and Financial Services, Department of (no Part A Initiatives)
<i>Language Part "D" Adjusts funding between General Fund appropriations and Federal Expenditure Fund ARP State Fiscal Recovery Funds and the transfer of allocation of State Local Fiscal Recovery Funds and extends certain limited period positions.</i>
<i>Language Part "F" Updates base year component of the Appropriation Limitation calculation and clarifies the program to which certain transfers when the Budget Stabilization Fund has reached its statutory maximum.</i>
<i>Language Part "G" Transfers specified balances in the Unappropriated Surplus of the General Fund to a reserve account on June 30, 2025 and transfers it back on July 1, 2025.</i>
1:30 PM Wednesday, February 21, 2024
Programs and Language Parts Under the Jurisdiction of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs:
Library, Maine State Imagination Library of Maine Program Maine State Library
<i>Language Part "AAA" Authorizes the Maine State Library to carry forward up to \$300,000 in the certain appropriations within the All Other category and \$1,500,000 in certain appropriations in the Capital Expenditures line category for specified purposes.</i>
<i>Language Part "BBB" Transfers \$168,030 from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the Maine State Library, Imagination Library of Maine Program, Other Special Revenue Funds account.</i>
Community College System, Maine Maine Community College System - Board of Trustees
Maritime Academy, Maine Maine Maritime Academy - Debt Service

Maine Maritime Academy Scholarship Fund - Casino
University of Maine, Board of Trustees of the University of Maine Scholarship Fund
Education, Department of Adult Education Child Development Services General Purpose Aid for Local Schools (GPA) Higher Education and Educator Support Services Innovative Teaching and Learning Leadership Team Learning Systems Team Maine School Safety Center Office of Innovation Office of Workforce Development and Innovative Pathways Preschool Special Education Retired Teachers' Health Insurance School and Student Supports School Finance and Operations Special Services Team
<i>Language Part "C" Establishes the Total Cost of Education K-12 for FY25 , the state contribution, the annual target state share percentage and mil rate.</i>
<i>Language Part "U" Changes the maximum period of assignment of an educator under an interchange program.</i>
<i>Language Part "W" Reorganizes oversight and updates practices for serving infants, toddlers and children with disabilities from birth to 6 years of age.</i>
<i>Language Part "X" Renames the Facilities, Safety and Transportation program within the Department of Education.</i>
<i>Language Part "Y" Removes the Maine School for Marine Science, Technology, Transportation and Engineering from statue to reflect the school's closure as of December 31, 2022.</i>
<i>Language Part "Z" Allows the certification hearing officers and Individualized Education Program due process facilitators to be covered under the Maine Tort Claims Act.</i>
<i>Language Part "AA" Authorizes the Commissioner of Education to disperse available funds to certain school administrative units for projects or efforts related to expanding available grade configurations.</i>
<i>Language Part "BB" Establishes a Higher Education Administrative Fund within the Department of Education related to the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement.</i>
<i>Language Part "CC" Transfers \$11,000,000 from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the Department of Education, Child Development Services Program, Other Special Revenue Funds account.</i>
<i>Language Part "CCC" Transfers \$4,000,000 from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the School Revolving Renovation Fund at the Maine Municipal Bond Bank for school administrative units that have voluntarily assumed the free, appropriate education for children aged 3 - 5.</i>
1:30 PM Thursday, February 22, 2024
Programs Under the Jurisdiction of the Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement & Business
Economic and Community Development, Department of Administration – Economic and Community Development Community Development Block Grant Program Office of Tourism
Professional and Financial Regulation, Department of Engineers - State Board of Licensure for Professional Office of Professional and Occupational Regulation
2:30 PM Thursday, February 22, 2024
Programs and Language Parts Under the Jurisdiction of the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation
NOTE: Language and Initiatives related to reimbursement for the Property Tax Stabilization are not included in this hearing . The proposal was vetted under LD 646
Administrative and Financial Services, Department of Renewable Energy Facilities Property Tax Exemption <i>Language Part "H" Makes changes to the sales and use tax and service provider tax provisions of statute.</i>
Treasurer of the State, Office of Disproportionate Tax Burden Fund State – Municipal Revenue Sharing
1:00 PM Friday, February 23, 2024
Programs and Language Parts Under the Jurisdiction of the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs
Administrative and Financial Services, Department of Adult Use Cannabis Regulatory Coordination Fund Alcoholic Beverages – General Operations

Medical Use of Cannabis Fund
Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management, Department of
Administration – Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management
Military Training & Operations
Veterans Services
<i>Language Part "R" Authorizes the carryover of up to \$400,000 specified appropriations in the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management, Administration program to continue the environmental closure activities at the former Maine Military Authority site in Limestone</i>
<i>Language Part "S-1" Transfers \$75,000 the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Maine Military Reserve Fund to be used to settle outstanding obligations of the Maine Military Authority.</i>
<i>Language Part "S-2" Transfers \$460,000 the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the Administration - Defense funds in the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management, Administration program Other Special Revenue account to fund one-time environmental closure costs at the former Maine Military Authority site in Limestone.</i>
Public Safety, Department of
Gambling Control Board
Secretary of State, Department of
Bureau of Administrative Services and Corporations (Initiatives related to elections)
Elections and Commissions
2:00 PM Friday, February 23, 2024
Programs and Language Parts Under the Jurisdiction of the Joint Select Committee on Housing
Housing Authority, Maine State
Emergency Housing Relief Fund Program
Housing Authority – State
<i>Language Part "GG" Transfers \$10,000,000 from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the Maine State Housing Authority for new housing units through the Affordable Homeownership program.</i>
<i>Language Part "HH" Transfers \$16,000,000 from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the Maine State Housing Authority, Emergency Housing Relief Fund program.</i>
10:00 AM Monday, February 26, 2024
Programs and Language Parts Under the Jurisdiction of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services:
PROGRAMS AND LANGUAGE PARTS NOT SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY'S SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER AND ADULT MENTAL HEALTH HEARING BLOCK
NOTE: Testimony on Part PP and initiatives related to use of Department of Health and Human Services Purchased Social Services to support victims of crimes are not included in this hearing . The proposal was vetted under LD 2084
Health and Human Services, Department of
Child Care Services
Department of Health and Human Services Central Operations
Developmental Services – Community
Developmental Services Waiver - MaineCare
Developmental Services Waiver – Supports
Disability Determination - Division of
Division of Licensing and Certification
Drinking Water Enforcement
Food Supplement Administration
General Assistance – Reimbursement to Cities & Towns
Head Start
Injury and Violence Prevention Program
Low-Cost Drugs to Maine's Elderly
Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention
Maternal and Child Health
Medicaid Services – Developmental Services
Medicaid Waiver for Brain Injury Residential/Community Services
Medicaid Waiver for Other Related Conditions
Medical Care – Payments to Providers (except initiative on Page A-66 related to mobile crises rates)
Mental Health Services – Child Medicaid
Mental Health Services – Children
Nursing Facilities
Office for Family Independence
Office for Family Independence - District
Office of Aging and Disability Services Adult Protective Services
Office of Aging and Disability Services Central Office
Office of Child and Family Services – Central
Office of Child and Family Services – District
Office of MaineCare Services
PNMI Room and Board
Residential Treatment Facilities Assessment
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

Traumatic Brain Injury Seed
<i>Language Part "II" Limits municipalities from exceeding maximum levels of General Assistance past 30 days in a 12-month period for any household.</i>
<i>Language Part "JJ" Makes several changes to the hospital tax.</i>
<i>Language Part "KK" Makes changes in statute related to applications for "critical access hospital" designation.</i>
<i>Language Part "LL" Repeals and amends certain statute related to reimbursement of critical access hospitals.</i>
<i>Language Part "MM" Authorizes the Department to ensure payments to certain hospitals comply with federal rules and requirements.</i>
<i>Language Part "NN" Repeals and amends certain statute related to the qualified Medicare beneficiary (QMB) program; maintains the elimination of the asset test for all Medicare savings program; changes the expansion of the qualified individual (QI) program; and authorizes a reduction of the income limit in the QI program under certain conditions</i>
<i>Language Part "OO" Transfers \$5,000,000 from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the General Assistance - Reimbursement to Cities and Towns program, Other Special Revenue Funds account.</i>
<i>Language Part "QQ" Repeals the hardship exception that allows access to state-funded SNAP benefits for individuals who have obtained proper work documentation but are unemployed.</i>
<i>Language Part "RR" Allows the DHHS, Office of Child and Family Services to carry up to \$1,500,000 for specific technology enhancements.</i>
<i>Language Part "SS" Changes the beginning date of the increase of eligibility for child care subsidies.</i>
<i>Language Part "TT" Establishes a 2-year child care staff scholarship program.</i>
<i>Language Part "UU" Allows funding previously appropriated or allocated in PL 2023 c. 412 for rate reform for FY25 to be distributed in two phases.</i>
<i>Language Part "VV" Gives DHHS the authority to adopt emergency rules to implement certain provisions of this bill.</i>
<i>Language Part "LLL" Authorizes the Department of Health and Human Services to create and administer injury and violence prevention programs.</i>

2:00 PM Tuesday, February 27, 2024

Programs and Language Parts Under the Jurisdiction of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services

SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER AND ADULT MENTAL HEALTH

Health and Human Services, Department of
Disproportionate Share – Dorothea Dix Psychiatric Center
Disproportionate Share – Riverview Psychiatric Center
Dorothea Dix Psychiatric Center
Forensic Services
Medical Care – Payments to Providers Funding for cost-of-living increases per Title 22, § 3713 (in part) (p. A-65)
Medical Care – Payments to Providers Funding for new mobile crisis rates and services (p. A-66)
Medical Care – Payments to Providers Funding for cost-of-living increases per PL 2021 c. 639 (in part) (p. A-67)
Mental Health Services – Community
Mental Health Services – Community Medicaid
Office of Substance Abuse & Mental Health Srv-Medicaid Seed
Office of Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services
Opioid Use Disorder Prevention and Treatment Fund
Purchased Social Services
Riverview Psychiatric Center
<i>Language Part "KKK" Authorizes the Department of Health and Human Services to plan for and assist a statewide network for Crisis Receiving Centers in Maine rural and urban communities.</i>

1:00 PM Wednesday, February 28, 2024

Programs and Language Parts Under the Jurisdiction of the Joint Standing Committees on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services

Administrative and Financial Services, Department of
State Mandate Defrayal
Professional and Financial Regulation, Department of
Licensure in Medicine – Board of
Nursing – Board of
Osteopathic Licensure – Board of
<i>Language Part "DDD" Updates the effective date for in PL 2023, chapter 329 "An Act to Establish the Physical Therapy Licensure Compact" to allow timely staffing consistent with the allocations provided.</i>

2:00 PM Wednesday, February 28, 2024

Programs and Language Parts Under the Jurisdiction of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary

NOTE: Testimony on Part PP and initiatives related to use of Department of Health and Human Services Purchased Social Services to support victims of crimes are not included in this hearing . The proposal was vetted under LD 2084

Attorney General, Department of
Administration – Attorney General
Chief Medical Examiner – Office of
District Attorney's Salaries

Human Services Division
Maine Mass Violence Care Fund (Allocation in Language Part N)
Victims Compensation Board
<i>Language Part "N" Creates the Maine Mass Violence Care Fund, transfers \$5,000,000 into the fund and creates a working group to develop standards for distributions from the fund to be implemented by the Victim's Compensation Board</i>
Indigent Legal Services, Maine Commission on
Maine Commission on Indigent Legal Services
<i>Language Part "WW" Authorizes a one-time transfer of available balances of appropriations between the Personal Services and All Other line categories in the Maine Commission on Indigent Legal Services program.</i>
Judicial Department
Courts – Supreme, Superior and District
<i>Language Part "XX" Authorizes a one-time transfer of available balances of appropriations between the Personal Services and All Other line categories in the Supreme Judicial and Superior Courts program to fund certain temporary services contracts.</i>

1:00 PM Thursday, February 29, 2024

Programs Under the Jurisdiction of the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation

Public Safety, Department of
State Police
Traffic Safety-Commercial Vehicle Enforcement

2:00 PM Thursday, February 29, 2024

Programs and Language Parts Under the Jurisdiction of Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety

Corrections, Department of
Administration – Corrections
Corrections Food
Corrections Fuel
County Jail Operations Fund

Language Part "O" Transfers funds from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the Department of Corrections for one-time implementation costs of the Offender Management System.

Language Part "P" Authorizes the carryover of specified funds in the Department of Corrections for the subscription costs for the Offender Management System.

Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management, Department of
Administration-Maine Emergency Management Agency

Language Part "Q" Makes changes to the statute related to the Disaster Recovery Fund, Other Special Revenue account in the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management

Public Safety, Department of
Capitol Police, Bureau of
Computer Crimes
Emergency Medical Services
Fire Marshall – Office of
Licensing and Enforcement - Public Safety
Safe Homes Program

Language Part "EEE" Transfers \$200,000 from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the Department of Public Safety, Safe Homes Program, Other Special Revenue Funds account.

Language Part "FFF" Authorizes employees in a Fire Investigator position to immediately progress to a Senior level under specified conditions.

9:30 AM Friday, March 1, 2024

Programs Under the Jurisdiction of the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology

Executive Department
Governor's Energy Office
Public Advocate
Public Utilities Commission
Public Utilities – Administrative Division

10:00 AM Friday, March 1, 2024

Programs Under the Jurisdiction of the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, Department of
ATV Enforcement Fund
Endangered Nongame Operations
Enforcement Operations – IF&W
Fisheries and Hatcheries Operations
Licensing Services – IF&W

Office of the Commissioner – IF&W
Public Information and Education, Division of
Resource Management Services – IF&W
11:00 AM Friday, March 1, 2024
Programs Under the Jurisdiction of the Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources:
Marine Resources, Department of
Bureau of Marine Science
Bureau of Policy and Management
Bureau of Public Health
Marine Patrol – Bureau of
Sea Run Fisheries and Habitat
1:00 PM Friday, March 1, 2024
Programs and Language Parts Under the Jurisdiction of the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government
<i>NOTE: Language and Initiatives related to the proposed Office of New Americans are not included in this hearing. The proposal was vetted under LD 2167</i>
Auditor, Office of the State
Audit Bureau
Executive Department
GOPIF - Community Resilience Partnership
<i>Language Part "EE" Transfers \$5,000,000 from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the Executive Department, GOPIF - Community Resilience Partnership, Other Special Revenue account.</i>
Maine Office of Community Affairs
Maine Office of Community Affairs
<i>Language Part "DD" Creates the Maine Office of Community Affairs agency and establishes a Director position .</i>
Perm Comm on the Status of Racial, Indigenous and Tribal Pop
Racial, Indigenous and Maine Tribal Populations
Secretary of State, Department of
Administration – Archives
Bureau of Administrative Services and Corporations (initiatives unrelated to elections)
<i>Language Part "GGG" Authorizes the Secretary of State to carry forward up to \$1,500,000 previously appropriated in the Administration-Archives program, Capital Expenditures line category.</i>
Administrative and Financial Services, Department of (DAFS)
Buildings & Grounds Operations
Central Services – Purchases
Information Services
Risk Management – Claims
Workers' Compensation Management Fund Program
10:00 AM Monday, March 4, 2024
Programs Under the Jurisdiction of the Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources
Environmental Protection, Department of
Administration – Environmental Protection
Land Resources
Maine Environmental Protection Fund
Remediation and Waste Management
Water Quality
Saco River Corridor Commission
Saco River Corridor Commission
11:00 AM Monday, March 4, 2024
Programs and Language Parts Under the Jurisdiction of the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing
Labor, Department of
Administration - Bur Labor Stds
Administration - Labor
Employment Security Services
Employment Services Activity
Maine Apprenticeship Program
Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance Fund
Regulation and Enforcement
Rehabilitation Services
Safety Education and Training Programs

<i>Language Part "YY" Transfers unobligated balances in the Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance Fund program, Other Special Revenue Funds account to the Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance Fund program, Enterprise account at the end of FY24.</i>
<i>Language Part "ZZ" Establishes the Wage Recovery Fund within the Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Standards</i>

1:00 PM Monday, March 4, 2024

Programs and Language Parts Under the Jurisdiction of the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Department of
Bureau of Agriculture
Conservation and Recreation Fund
Conservation Land Management Fund
DACF Administration
Division of Forest Protection
Farmers Drought Relief Grant Program
Forest Resource Management
Harness Racing Commission
Land for Maine's Future
Land for Maine's Future Trust Fund
Land Management and Planning
Maine Healthy Soils Program
Maine Land Use Planning Commission
Maine Working Farmland Access and Protection Program
Milk Commission
Natural Areas Program
Off-road Recreational Vehicles Program
Parks – General Operations
<i>Language Part "I" Authorizes carry forward of specified unexpended balances in the Capital Expenditures line category in the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry in FY24 to upgrade the Cony Road Facility.</i>
<i>Language Part "J" Transfers funds from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry be used to upgrade the Cony Road facility.</i>
<i>Language Part "K" Authorizes a one-time transfer of certain balances in the Department of Agriculture and Forestry for capital expenditures.</i>
<i>Language Part "L" Establishes the Agricultural Fair Promotion Fund as a separate unit within the Harness Racing Commission.</i>
<i>Language Part "M" Streamlines the accounting for the Land for Maine's Future Trust Fund.</i>
<i>Language Part "HHH" Transfers \$3,000,000 in FY24 from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Milk Commission Program, Other Special Revenue Funds account to provide one-time payments to Milk producers.</i>
<i>Language Part "III" Transfers \$6,000,000 from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Parks-General Operations, Other Special Revenue Funds account for damage incurred during recent storms.</i>
<i>Language Part "JJJ" Authorizes the carry forward of up to \$500,000 in unexpended All Other appropriations and \$1,500,000 in unexpended Capital Expenditures appropriations in the Bureau of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to be used for specified purposes.</i>
Finance Authority of Maine
Dairy Improvement Fund