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STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

MEMORANDUM

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

FROM: Senator Craig Hickman, Senate Chair ^{CH}
Representative Laura Supica, House Chair ^{LS}
Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs

DATE: January 27, 2025

RE: Recommendations on the Governor’s Proposed Supplemental Budget, LD 209

On January 27, 2025, the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs reviewed the two items that are not reclassifications, reorganizations, or adjustments based on revenue forecasting projections in the Governor’s proposed supplemental budget pertaining to the agencies under the committee’s jurisdiction. Representative Gramlich was absent from the entire work session and Representatives Terry, Frost, Hymes and Fredericks were absent for portions of the work session. All other members were present for the entirety. Please find attached the supplemental budget report-back document, which indicates the committee’s vote on each of the two initiatives.

The following initiative was supported by a majority of members present and voting:

1. Ref. #255: This initiative provides funding for the increase in election ballot printing, postage and other election costs in the amount of \$408,431.

The following initiative was opposed by a majority of members present and voting:

2. Ref. #253: This initiative provides funding for increases in technology costs in accordance with MaineIT increases in the amount of \$19,838.

In regards to this initiative, the committee attempted to gather more information on the source of these cost increases and why such increases, which are billed to the department based on rates set by MaineIT, which is within the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, are unanticipated and therefore result in supplemental budget requests. The committee was unable to

receive this information during the brief report back period. Therefore, the committee would strongly recommend that the Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee inquire more directly into this issue with the Department of Administrative and Financial Affairs, MaineIT before considering this initiative.

Encl: VLA Report-back document

cc: Members, Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs
Maureen Dawson, OFPR Analyst, AFA Committee
Justin Purvis, Clerk, AFA Committee

Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.
ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF

Adult Use Cannabis Public Health and Safety Fund and Municipal Opt-In Fund Z263

Initiative: Adjusts funding to align with revenue projections from the December 1, 2024 revenue forecast.

Ref. #: 9 One Time Committee Vote NA AFA Vote _____

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$1,148,338	\$0	\$0
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$1,148,338	\$0	\$0

Notes:

Informational only. Not part of the Public Hearing. Policy Committees need not make a recommendation on initiatives that align Other Special Revenue allocations with the Revenue Forecast.

Justification:

This initiative aligns allocation with December 1, 2024 revenue forecast.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF

DEPARTMENT TOTALS	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	\$1,148,338	\$0	\$0
DEPARTMENT TOTAL- ALL FUNDS	\$1,148,338	\$0	\$0

Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.
E, VETERANS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT, DEPARTMENT OF

Military Training and Operations 0108

Initiative: Provides funding for approved employee-initiated reclassification of one Environmental Specialist II position to Environmental Specialist III position funded 100% Federal Expenditures Fund within the Military Training and Operations program retroactive to 03/04/2024.

Ref. #: 66 One Time Committee Vote NA AFA Vote _____

FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
Personal Services	\$11,127	\$0	\$0
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND TOTAL	<u>\$11,127</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

Notes:

Informational only. Not part of the Public Hearing. Policy Committees need not make a recommendation on Reclassification, Reorganization and Range Change initiatives.

Justification:

This is an approved employee-initiated reclassification to provide for the additional duties and responsibilities required of the position. The duties of this position have evolved and expanded, and are anticipated to continue expanding, to meet, new Army National Guard/Department of Defense (ARNG/DoD) requirements concerning Tribal consultation and Environmental Justice, increases in ARNG/DoD requirements concerning PFAS in Maine Army National Guard drinking water supplies, an increase in requirements to operate public drinking water supplies as the Maine Army National Guard builds out the Woodville Training Site, and a doubling of facilities subject to storm water regulation in the last 10 years, a trend that will continue upward. This position is funded through the Master Cooperative Agreement between the State of Maine and the National Guard Bureau at 100% Federal Expenditures Fund. (POS#1001957). Continued C-A-5.

Veterans Services 0110

Initiative: Adjusts funding to align with revenue projections from the December 1, 2024 revenue forecast.

Ref. #: 68 One Time Committee Vote NA AFA Vote _____

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$31,984	\$0	\$0
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	<u>\$31,984</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

Notes:

Informational only. Not part of the Public Hearing. Policy Committees need not make a recommendation on initiatives that align Other Special Revenue allocations with the Revenue Forecast.

Justification:

This initiative aligns allocation with December 1, 2024 revenue forecast.

DEFENSE, VETERANS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT, DEPARTMENT OF

DEPARTMENT TOTALS	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND	\$11,127	\$0	\$0
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	\$31,984	\$0	\$0
DEPARTMENT TOTAL- ALL FUNDS	\$43,111	\$0	\$0

Sec. A-21. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

PUBLIC SAFETY, DEPARTMENT OF

Gambling Control Board Z002

Initiative: Adjusts funding to align with revenue projections from the December 1, 2024 revenue forecast.

Ref. #: 241 One Time Committee Vote NA AFA Vote _____

	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS			
All Other	\$74,568	\$0	\$0
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$74,568	\$0	\$0

Notes:

Informational only. Not part of the Public Hearing. Policy Committees need not make a recommendation on initiatives that align Other Special Revenue allocations with the Revenue Forecast.

Justification:

This initiative aligns allocation with December 1, 2024 revenue forecast.

PUBLIC SAFETY, DEPARTMENT OF

DEPARTMENT TOTALS	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	\$74,568	\$0	\$0
DEPARTMENT TOTAL- ALL FUNDS	\$74,568	\$0	\$0

Sec. A-22. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

SECRETARY OF STATE, DEPARTMENT OF

Bureau of Corporations, 0692

Initiative: Provides funding for increases in technology costs in accordance with MaineIT increases.

Ref. #: 253	One Time	Committee Vote	AFA Vote		

GENERAL FUND			2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	"out"		\$19,838	\$0	\$0
GENERAL FUND TOTAL			\$19,838	\$0	\$0

Handwritten notes:
 "out" - 7
 "In" - 2
 absent - 4
 Rep. Terry
 Rep. Frost
 Rep. Hymes
 Rep. Granichs
 Sens. Dason, Hickman, Timberlake
 Reps. Chapman, Boyer, Supica, Fredericks
 "In" Reps. Graham, Halon

Justification:

Expenses from MaineIT have increased. This initiative seeks to provide funding for the increase.

Bureau of Corporations, 0692

Initiative: Provides funding for the approved reclassification of one Accounting Associate I position to an Office Specialist I position retroactive to August 2023.

Ref. #: 254	One Time	Committee Vote	AFA Vote		

GENERAL FUND			2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
Personal Services			\$14,978	\$0	\$0
GENERAL FUND TOTAL			\$14,978	\$0	\$0

Handwritten notes:
 NA

Notes:

Informational only. Not part of the Public Hearing. Policy Committees need not make a recommendation on Reclassification, Reorganization and Range Change initiatives.

Justification:

This employee-initiated reclassification of one Accounting Associate I position to an Office Specialist I position was approved by the Bureau of Human Resources on April 8, 2024. This initiative coincides with 2026-2027 biennium initiative SEC C-A-50.

Bureau of Corporations, 0692

Initiative: Provides funding for the increase in election ballot printing, postage and other election costs.

Ref. #: 255	One Time	Committee Vote	AFA Vote		

GENERAL FUND			2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	"In"		\$408,431	\$0	\$0
GENERAL FUND TOTAL			\$408,431	\$0	\$0

Handwritten notes:
 "In" - 7
 "out" - 4
 absent - 2
 Rep. Fredericks
 Rep. Granichs
 Sens. Dason, Hickman
 Reps. Graham, Terry, Frost, Supica, Halon
 "out" Sen. Timberlake
 Reps. Chapman, Boyer, Hymes

GENERAL FUND TOTAL

\$408,431

\$0

\$0

Justification:

The requirement for a referendum ballot in November 2024 and continued consolidation in the printing industry and supply chain issues are resulting in substantially increased costs for printing and delivery of ballots and absentee envelopes and other election supplies.

SECRETARY OF STATE, DEPARTMENT OF

DEPARTMENT TOTALS

2024-25

2025-26

2026-27

GENERAL FUND

\$443,247

\$0

\$0

DEPARTMENT TOTAL- ALL FUNDS

\$443,247

\$0

\$0