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STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY SECOND LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

MEMORANDUM

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

FROM: Senator Donna Bailey, Senate Chair *DB*
Representative Kristi Mathieson, House Chair *KM (CME)*
Joint Standing Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services

DATE: March 5, 2025

RE: Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services Committee’s Recommendations on the Governor’s Supplemental Budget Bill (LD 210)

We are writing to provide the recommendations of the Joint Standing Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services on those portions of the Governor’s Biennial Budget Bill (LD 210) that were considered in public hearing on February 26, 2025. We have reviewed, discussed and voted on each initiative and language part under the committee’s jurisdiction; we also recommend the inclusion of an additional initiative. The committee was unanimous in all of its votes with one exception¹ and the committee voted all initiatives and language parts into the budget with one exception.² We appreciate your consideration of our recommendations and comments.

1. Accident, Sickness and Health Insurance Program

The committee voted unanimously (11-0 of the members present³) to support the proposed initiatives related to the Accident, Sickness and Health Insurance Internal Service Fund, the Firefighters and Law Enforcement Officers Health Insurance Fund, the Retiree Health Insurance Fund and the General Fund appropriations and allocations within the Accident-Sickness-Health Insurance account. See pages 1-4 of the attached budget worksheet. Note also that Language Part O relates to the Accident, Sickness and Health Insurance Program and is discussed below.

¹ See initiative of the Office of Affordable Health Care discussed in section 8 and on p. 21 of attached budget worksheet.
² See Language Part O discussed in section 12 and on p. 44 of attached budget worksheet.
³ Sen. Baldacci and Sen. Haggan were not present at time of voting on all initiatives except as otherwise noted.

2. State Benefit Mandate Defrayal Program

The committee voted unanimously (11-0 of the members present) to support Ref. # 248, the initiative to reduce the General Fund appropriation to the State Benefit Mandate Defrayal program by \$2.6 million in each year of the biennium. If this initiative is accepted, this would result in ongoing annual funding for the State Benefit Mandate Defrayal program of \$1.2 million.

3. Trade Adjustment Health Insurance Program

The committee does not object to the baseline budget allocations for the Trade Adjustment Health Insurance Program; there are no new initiatives. See page 6 of the attached budget worksheet.

4. Dirigo Health/Maine Quality Forum

The committee voted unanimously (11-0 of the members present) to support the two initiatives, Ref. # 892 and Ref. # 893, for the Maine Quality Forum. See pages 8-10 of the attached budget worksheet.

5. Maine Health Data Organization

The committee voted unanimously (11-0 of the members present) to support the two initiatives, Ref. # 1514 and Ref. # 1515, for the Maine Health Data Organization. See pages 11-13 of the attached budget worksheet. Note also that Language Part OO relates to the Maine Health Data Organization and is discussed below.

6. DHHS, Maine Health Insurance Marketplace Trust Fund Program

The committee voted unanimously (11-0 of the members present) to support two initiatives, Ref. # 2097 and Ref. # 2098 related to the Maine Health Insurance Marketplace Trust Program. With regard to Ref. # 2099, the committee voted unanimously to support the initiative although only 10 members were present (Sen. Baldacci, Sen. Haggan and Rep. Morris were absent). See pages 14-16 of the attached budget worksheet.

7. Maine Retirement Savings Board Program

The committee does not object to the baseline allocation for the Maine Retirement Savings Board program; there are no new initiatives. See page 18 of the attached budget worksheet.

8. Office of Affordable Health Care Program

The committee voted **8-3** (Rep. Morris, Rep. Olsen and Rep. Cimino opposed) to support the initiative, Ref. # 553, for the Office of Affordable Health Care. See pages 20-22 of the attached budget worksheet.

9. Department of Professional and Financial Regulation

American Rescue Plan Act of 2021--Homeowner Assistance Fund

The committee does not object to the baseline budget for the Homeowner Assistance Fund; there are no new initiatives. See page 23 of the attached budget worksheet.

Bureau of Consumer Credit Protection

The committee does not object to the baseline budget for the Bureau of Consumer Credit Protection; there are no new initiatives. See page 24 of the attached budget worksheet.

Bureau of Financial Institutions

The committee voted unanimously (11-0 of the members present) to support the three initiatives, Ref. # 2824, Ref. # 2825 and Ref. # 2826, for the Bureau of Financial Institutions. See pages 25-26 of the attached budget worksheet. Note also that Language Part TTT relates to the Bureau of Financial Institutions and is discussed below.

Bureau of Insurance

The committee voted unanimously (11-0 of the members present) to support the one initiative, Ref. # 2820, for the Bureau of Insurance. See pages 27-28 of the attached budget worksheet. Note also that an additional initiative relates to the Bureau of Insurance and is discussed below.

Office of Securities

The committee does not object to the baseline budget for the Office of Securities; there are no new initiatives. See page 35 of the attached budget worksheet.

10. Department of Professional and Financial Regulation's affiliated licensing boards

Board of Licensure in Medicine

The committee voted unanimously (11-0 of the members present) to support the five initiatives, Ref. # 2859, Ref. # 2860, Ref. # 2861, Ref. # 2862 and Ref. # 2863, for the Board of Licensure in Medicine. See pages 29-31 of the attached budget worksheet.

Board of Nursing

The committee voted unanimously (11-0 of the members present) to support the four initiatives, Ref. # 2853, Ref. # 2854, Ref. # 2855 and Ref. # 2856, for the Board of Nursing. See pages 32-34 of the attached budget worksheet.

Board of Optometry

The committee voted unanimously (11-0 of the members present) to support the five initiatives, Ref. # 2873, Ref. # 2874, Ref. # 2875, Ref. # 2876 and Ref. # 2877, for the Board of Optometry. See pages 36-38 of the attached budget worksheet.

Board of Osteopathic Licensure

The committee voted unanimously (11-0 of the members present) to support the five initiatives, Ref. # 2866, Ref. # 2867, Ref. # 2868, Ref. # 2869 and Ref. # 2870, for the Board of Osteopathic Licensure. See pages 39-41 of the attached budget worksheet.

11. Securities Restitution Assistance Fund

The committee does not object to the baseline budget for the Securities Restitution Assistance Fund; there are no new initiatives. See page 42 of the attached budget worksheet.

12. Language Part O

The committee voted unanimously (11-0 of the members present) to **remove** Language Part O that would authorize employees of the Maine Developmental Services Oversight and Advisory Board to participate in the state employee health insurance program. The committee does not support adding members to participate in the health insurance plan in the absence of objective criteria to evaluate such requests. The committee is currently considering proposed legislation to add employees of the Maine Association of Retirees to the state health insurance program, LD 91, An Act to Authorize Employees of the Maine Association of Retirees to Be Eligible for Participation in the State Employee Health Insurance Program. The committee has deferred action on this bill in order to allow the Department of Administrative and Financial Services the opportunity to develop objective criteria for the committee's review later this session. See page 44 of the attached budget worksheet.

13. Language Part OO

The committee voted unanimously (11-0 of the members present) to support Language Part OO that authorizes transfers of up to \$300,000 annually from available balances in Personal Services allocations to All Other allocations in the Maine Health Data Organization, Other Special Revenue Funds account. See page 44 of the attached budget worksheet.

14. Language Part TTT

The committee voted unanimously (11-0 of the members present) to support Language Part TTT that establishes a career ladder for the Bank Examiner job classifications within the Department of Professional and Financial Regulations, Bureau of Financial Institutions. The changes will improve the ability of the Bureau to attract and retain capable examiners in order to respond to the increasing complexities of the work. See page 44 -45 of the attached budget worksheet.

Additional Recommendation for New Language Part Related to the Health Insurance Consumer Assistance Program

The committee voted unanimously (11-0 of the members present) to recommend the addition of a new Language Part to the biennial budget related to the Health Insurance Consumer Assistance Program established in Title 24-A, section 4326. Since this program was established in law, the funding has been provided through a transfer of Other Special Revenue from the Bureau of Insurance to the Office of the Attorney General to contract for these services. The committee members discussed this initiative and confirmed that the Bureau of Insurance continues to support the use of their funds in this manner in recognition of the valuable work done through the program to assist consumers. The committee members support continued funding for this program with Other Special Revenue from the Bureau of Insurance. The recommended Language Part is as follows:

PART ____

Sec. ____. *Transfers from available Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Bureau of Insurance, Other Special Revenue Funds balances to the Department of the Attorney General, Other Special Revenue Funds account. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, on or before November 1, 2025 and on or before June 30, 2026 the State Controller shall transfer \$300,000 from available balances in the Bureau of Insurance, Other Special Revenue Funds account within the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation to the Department of the Attorney General, Other Special Revenue Funds account for the purpose of contracting with a designated nonprofit and independent health insurance consumer assistance entity to continue to operate the Health Insurance Consumer Assistance Program established under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 24-A, section 4326.*

We have attached the budget worksheets provided by the Office of Fiscal and Program Review and included notations of the committee's vote on each item. We have also included copies of proposed draft language reflecting our recommendations. We have considered our recommendations carefully. We hope that the input we have provided on the budget proposals within our subject matter jurisdiction is useful in your committee deliberations. We have also included a copy of our report back on the Governor's Supplemental Budget initiatives as a reminder of those recommendations. We ask that you notify us of any work sessions related to the budgets of the entities within our policy jurisdiction so that committee members can attend and provide our comments directly. Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

Enc.

cc: Members, Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs
Members, Joint Standing Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services

Sec. A-1. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF

Accident - Sickness - Health Insurance 0455

Initiative: BASELINE BUDGET

	History 2023-24	History 2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
GENERAL FUND				
All Other	\$772,957	\$772,957	\$772,957	\$772,957
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$772,957	\$772,957	\$772,957	\$772,957
RETIREE HEALTH INSURANCE FUND				
All Other	\$116,951,295	\$116,951,295	\$116,951,295	\$116,951,295
RETIREE HEALTH INSURANCE FUND TOTAL	\$116,951,295	\$116,951,295	\$116,951,295	\$116,951,295
ACCIDENT, SICKNESS AND HEALTH INSURANCE INTERNAL SERVICE FUND				
POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	18,000	18,000	18,000	18,000
Personal Services	\$1,987,640	\$2,058,890	\$2,122,079	\$2,246,530
All Other	\$1,607,403	\$1,607,403	\$1,607,403	\$1,607,403
ACCIDENT, SICKNESS AND HEALTH INSURANCE INTERNAL SERVICE FUND TOTAL	\$3,595,043	\$3,666,293	\$3,729,482	\$3,853,933
FIREFIGHTERS AND LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM FUND				
POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Personal Services	\$97,160	\$101,161	\$110,563	\$118,679
All Other	\$57,876	\$57,876	\$57,876	\$57,876
FIREFIGHTERS AND LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM FUND TOTAL	\$155,036	\$159,037	\$168,439	\$176,555

Justification:

The Division of Employee Health & Benefits is responsible for (1) the management and administration of the State employee health plan, dental plan, direct reimbursement accounts, deferred compensation, vision care, retired teacher health premium reimbursement; (2) the central management and administration of the Workers' Compensation claims for State employees; (3) management of contracted services for the Employee Assistance Programs (EAP); and (4) the development of health & safety policies and programs to reduce the incidence of illnesses and injuries to employees. The Division is comprised of two primary units with the following responsibilities: The Employee Health unit (1) administers the State employee health plan providing a point-of-service plan and Medicare Advantage plan to approximately 40,000 covered lives. This unit administers subscriber enrollment, premium billing, claim resolution, and contract management for the health, dental, and voluntary benefits (flex spending accounts, deferred compensation, vision care and long term care insurance). This unit supports the State Employee Health Commission which serves as trustees to the State employee health plan. The unit facilitates agreements with Commission members in order to develop policies and practices designed to contain plan costs while ensuring access to high quality, affordable health care services. This unit partners with a variety of vendors to analyze claims experience, identify trends and develop benefit design features. (2)

Another area of responsibility is the EAP, which provides confidential assessment, referral, and counseling services for all State employees and their family members. The EAP assesses client needs and refers employee to appropriate community based providers. Additionally, the EAP provides short-term professional counseling services related to a wide range of personal issue, which may affect job performance. The primary objective of EAP is to provide direct services to enhance the productivity, performance, and quality of life of State employees. (3) Finally, the unit coordinates employee health and safety initiatives in cooperation with seventeen departmental health and safety committees. The unit provides consultation for work site assessments, ergonomic training, and other intervention strategies to reduce the risk of exposure to work related injuries. As part of the statewide safety programs, this unit manages the alcohol and drug testing policies and programs in order to comply with the Federal Highway Administration (FWHA) rules. The Workers' Compensation Unit is responsible for case management of claims filed in the Executive, Legislative, and Judicial branches. The unit directs agencies in the timely reporting and payment of claims, monitors and controls medical costs, implements return-to-work programs, interprets Workers' Compensation law and policies for agencies and directs a management information system. The unit works closely with line agency representatives to ensure compliance with established reporting and payment standards and to develop policies and procedures to maximize efficiency and ensure effective management of all claims.

Accident - Sickness - Health Insurance 0455

Initiative: Provides funding for statewide technology services provided by the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Office of Information Technology.

Ref. #: 129 Committee Vote: IN 11-0 AFA Vote: _____

	<u>2025-26</u>	<u>2026-27</u>
RETIREE HEALTH INSURANCE FUND		
All Other	\$6,063	\$6,063
RETIREE HEALTH INSURANCE FUND TOTAL	<u>\$6,063</u>	<u>\$6,063</u>

Ref. #: 130 Committee Vote: IN 11-0 AFA Vote: _____

	<u>2025-26</u>	<u>2026-27</u>
ACCIDENT, SICKNESS AND HEALTH INSURANCE		
INTERNAL SERVICE FUND		
All Other	\$43,266	\$43,266
ACCIDENT, SICKNESS AND HEALTH INSURANCE	<u>\$43,266</u>	<u>\$43,266</u>
INTERNAL SERVICE FUND TOTAL		

Justification:
MaineIT is responsible for the delivery of safe, secure, and high-performing networks and systems to State Agencies for daily performance of their missions for the citizens of Maine. IT enterprise functions benefitting all state agencies are managed through this office to ensure consistency, volume discount efficiencies, and optimum performance and throughput. MaineIT is established as an internal service fund intended to recoup their costs through billings to departments and agencies for services provided. MaineIT expenses are higher due to negotiated and benefit changes to Personal Services as well as increases in operational costs, including vendor increases, supply chain costs, and network and systems modernization and upgrades. This recoupment process results in increased billing rates to departments and agencies.

Accident - Sickness - Health Insurance 0455

Initiative: Provides funding for the Department's share of the cost for the financial and human resources service center within the Department of Administrative and Financial Services.

Ref. #: 131

Committee Vote: IN 11-0

AFA Vote: _____

RETIREE HEALTH INSURANCE FUND

All Other

2025-26 **2026-27**

\$696 \$2,374

RETIREE HEALTH INSURANCE FUND TOTAL

\$696 \$2,374

Ref. #: 132

Committee Vote: IN 11-0

AFA Vote: _____

**ACCIDENT, SICKNESS AND HEALTH INSURANCE
INTERNAL SERVICE FUND**

All Other

2025-26 **2026-27**

\$2,088 \$7,121

ACCIDENT, SICKNESS AND HEALTH INSURANCE
INTERNAL SERVICE FUND TOTAL

\$2,088 \$7,121

Justification:

Service Centers within DAFS provide centralized accounting, payroll, budgeting and human resources services to departments and agencies. Service Centers are established as an internal service funds intended to recoup their costs through billings to departments and agencies for services provided. The Service Centers expenses are higher due to negotiated and benefit changes to Personal Services as well as increases in operational costs. This recoupment process results in increased billing rates to departments and agencies.

Accident - Sickness - Health Insurance 0455

Initiative: Continues one limited-period Public Service Manager II position, previously established by Public Law 2023, chapter 17 through June 18, 2027.

Ref. #: 133

Committee Vote: IN 11-0

AFA Vote: _____

**ACCIDENT, SICKNESS AND HEALTH INSURANCE
INTERNAL SERVICE FUND**

Personal Services

All Other

2025-26 **2026-27**

\$166,185 \$173,044

\$6,441 \$6,447

ACCIDENT, SICKNESS AND HEALTH INSURANCE
INTERNAL SERVICE FUND TOTAL

\$172,626 \$179,491

Justification:

This initiative continues one limited-period Public Service Manager II position to assist with the design of the benefits portion of the Human Resource Management System project in accordance with project goals and works to identify and mitigate existing business risk or risks associated with benefits solution architecture. This extends this position to June 18, 2027.

Accident - Sickness - Health Insurance 0455

Initiative: Provides funding to align allocations with projected expenditures and available resources.

Ref. #: 134

Committee Vote: IN 11-0

AFA Vote: _____

RETIREE HEALTH INSURANCE FUND

2025-26 **2026-27**

All Other		\$17,235,498	\$17,235,498
RETIREE HEALTH INSURANCE FUND TOTAL		\$17,235,498	\$17,235,498

Justification:

This initiative supports the cost of retiree health insurance premiums. The costs will be fully reimbursed by the corresponding agencies and do not represent an unbudgeted increase.

**ACCIDENT - SICKNESS - HEALTH INSURANCE 0455
PROGRAM SUMMARY**

GENERAL FUND	History 2023-24	History 2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$772,957	\$772,957	\$772,957	\$772,957
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$772,957	\$772,957	\$772,957	\$772,957
RETIREE HEALTH INSURANCE FUND	History 2023-24	History 2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$116,951,295	\$116,951,295	\$134,193,552	\$134,195,230
RETIREE HEALTH INSURANCE FUND TOTAL	\$116,951,295	\$116,951,295	\$134,193,552	\$134,195,230
ACCIDENT, SICKNESS AND HEALTH INSURANCE INTERNAL SERVICE FUND	History 2023-24	History 2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	18.000	18.000	18.000	18.000
Personal Services	\$1,987,640	\$2,058,890	\$2,288,264	\$2,419,574
All Other	\$1,607,403	\$1,607,403	\$1,659,198	\$1,664,237
ACCIDENT, SICKNESS AND HEALTH INSURANCE INTERNAL SERVICE FUND TOTAL	\$3,595,043	\$3,666,293	\$3,947,462	\$4,083,811
FIREFIGHTERS AND LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM FUND	History 2023-24	History 2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000
Personal Services	\$97,160	\$101,161	\$110,563	\$118,679
All Other	\$57,876	\$57,876	\$57,876	\$57,876
FIREFIGHTERS AND LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM FUND TOTAL	\$155,036	\$159,037	\$168,439	\$176,555

State Benefit Mandate Defrayal Z373

Initiative: BASELINE BUDGET

GENERAL FUND	History 2023-24	History 2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$3,800,000	\$3,800,000	\$3,800,000	\$3,800,000
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$3,800,000	\$3,800,000	\$3,800,000	\$3,800,000

Justification:

The intent of this program is to provide funding for the cost of the benefit mandate providing coverage of infertility treatment as enacted by Public Law 2021, chapter 692, An Act To Provide Access to Fertility Care.

State Benefit Mandate Defrayal Z373

Initiative: Reduces funding for the cost of the benefit mandate providing coverage of infertility treatment under Public Law 2021, chapter 692.

Ref. #: 248

Committee Vote: IN 11-0 AFA Vote: _____

GENERAL FUND	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	(\$2,600,000)	(\$2,600,000)
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	(\$2,600,000)	(\$2,600,000)

Justification:

This initiative reduces funding for the cost of the benefit mandate providing coverage of infertility treatment based on updated actuarial estimates. The defrayal account and payment process is shared between DAFS and the Bureau of Insurance (BOI). The Program is in DAFS; rules and mandate studies to estimate defrayal costs as well as finalizing actual payments are in BOI. Once determined through the BOI process, DAFS will issue the payments to the relevant carriers.

**STATE BENEFIT MANDATE DEFRAAYAL Z373
PROGRAM SUMMARY**

GENERAL FUND	History 2023-24	History 2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$3,800,000	\$3,800,000	\$1,200,000	\$1,200,000
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$3,800,000	\$3,800,000	\$1,200,000	\$1,200,000

Trade Adjustment Assistance Health Insurance Z001

Initiative: BASELINE BUDGET

	History 2023-24	History 2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND				
All Other	\$8,385	\$8,385	\$8,385	\$8,385
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND TOTAL	\$8,385	\$8,385	\$8,385	\$8,385
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS				
All Other	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$75,000
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$75,000

Justification:

The purpose of this program is to provide a group health insurance product for individuals certified to receive federal assistance for health coverage under the terms of the tax credit program within the federal Trade Adjustment Assistance Reform Act of 2002. Individuals certified under the Trade Adjustment Assistance Reform Act are workers who have been displaced as a result of foreign competition

**TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE HEALTH INSURANCE Z001
PROGRAM SUMMARY**

	History 2023-24	History 2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND				
All Other	\$8,385	\$8,385	\$8,385	\$8,385
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND TOTAL	\$8,385	\$8,385	\$8,385	\$8,385
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS				
All Other	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$75,000
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$75,000

ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF

DEPARTMENT TOTALS	2025-26	2026-27
GENERAL FUND	\$1,972,957	\$1,972,957
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND	\$8,385	\$8,385
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	\$75,000	\$75,000
RETIREE HEALTH INSURANCE FUND	\$134,193,552	\$134,195,230
ACCIDENT, SICKNESS AND HEALTH INSURANCE INTERNAL SERVICE FUND	\$3,947,462	\$4,083,811
FIREFIGHTERS AND LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM FUND	\$168,439	\$176,555
DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$140,365,795	\$140,511,938

Sec. A-17. Appropriations and allocations.

The following appropriations and allocations are made.

DIRIGO HEALTH

Dirigo Health Fund 0988

Initiative: BASELINE BUDGET

GENERAL FUND	History 2023-24	History 2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	2.000	2.000	2.000	2.000
Personal Services	\$356,970	\$375,865	\$409,147	\$425,658
All Other	\$852,590	\$852,590	\$852,590	\$852,590
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$1,209,560	\$1,228,455	\$1,261,737	\$1,278,248

Justification:

The Dirigo Health Agency was established as an independent executive agency in 2003. The Agency was established to arrange for the provision of comprehensive, affordable health care coverage for eligible small employers and individuals on a voluntary basis and for monitoring and improving the quality of health care in the State through the activities of the Maine Quality Forum (MQF). The Agency operates under the supervision of a Board of Trustees. As of December 31, 2013 the Agency is no longer administering any of its health care coverage programs. The Agency continues its work specific to healthcare quality as defined in Title 24-A, chapter 87, Section 6951. MQF's activities range from the public reporting of data related to healthcare associated infection rates in our hospitals to patient experience of care survey results. In collaboration with our private and public sector partners, the MQF continues to support initiatives in the market that have a goal of improving health care quality in the State of Maine. Examples of several of the MQF's initiatives include: Patient Centered Medical Home Pilot; Patient Experience of Care; Collection and Analysis of Standardized Measures of Quality and Culture of Safety. Many of the MQF's initiatives are aligned with the State's SIM grant. The MQF is one of four conveners for the State's Patient Centered Medical Home Pilot and holds the agreement with CMS for the Multi-Payer Advanced Primary Care Practice demonstration which brings the Medicare beneficiaries into the PCMH pilot with over \$20 million in new money for the physician practices that are participating in the pilot. The MQF continues to support the project director of this effort and we are funding the evaluation of the pilot. The MQF is required to submit an annual report on the state of Healthcare acquired infections in Maine hospitals to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services. In addition, in fiscal year 2013-14 the MQF developed and launched its Maine Patient Experience Matters website which can be found at: <http://www.maine-patient-experiencematters.org/>. The Maine Patient Experience Matters initiative is the first statewide survey of patients' experience in Maine. The website provides information from the patients' perspective about the care they receive at adult primary care, specialty and pediatric practices across the State. The website allows consumers to compare results across participating practices in the State. In 2014 the MQF launched a second round of our statewide effort to promote, standardize, and measure patient experiences of care. We annually submit a report on the state of Healthcare acquired infections in Maine hospitals to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services. The MQF continues to support initiatives that have a goal of improving health care quality in the State of Maine. Recent publications include: 2014 Annual Report on Healthcare Associated Infections (HAI) in Maine; Advancing Patient Safety in the Ambulatory Setting-Maine's Pilot of the AHRQ Medical Office Survey on Patient Safety Culture-Final Report and Patient Experience Matters Website: <http://www.maine-patient-experiencematters.org/>.

Dirigo Health Fund 0988

Initiative: Provides funding for the Department's share of the cost for the financial and human resources service center within the Department of Administrative and Financial Services.

Ref. #: 892

Committee Vote: IN 11-0

AFA Vote: _____

GENERAL FUND	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$356	\$602
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$356	\$602

Justification:

Service Centers within DAFS provide centralized accounting, payroll, budgeting and human resources services to departments and agencies. Service Centers are established as an internal service funds intended to recoup their costs through billings to departments and agencies for services provided. The Service Centers expenses are higher due to negotiated and benefit changes to Personal Services as well as increases in operational costs. This recoupment process results in increased billing rates to departments and agencies.

Dirigo Health Fund 0988

Initiative: Provides funding for statewide technology services provided by the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Office of Information Technology.

Ref. #: 893

Committee Vote: IN 11-0

AFA Vote: _____

GENERAL FUND	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$899	\$899
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$899	\$899

Justification:

MaineIT is responsible for the delivery of safe, secure, and high-performing networks and systems to State Agencies for daily performance of their missions for the citizens of Maine. IT enterprise functions benefitting all state agencies are managed through this office to ensure consistency, volume discount efficiencies, and optimum performance and throughput. MaineIT is established as an internal service fund intended to recoup their costs through billings to departments and agencies for services provided. MaineIT expenses are higher due to negotiated and benefit changes to Personal Services as well as increases in operational costs, including vendor increases, supply chain costs, and network and systems modernization and upgrades. This recoupment process results in increased billing rates to departments and agencies.

**DIRIGO HEALTH FUND 0988
PROGRAM SUMMARY**

GENERAL FUND	History 2023-24	History 2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
Personal Services	\$356,970	\$375,865	\$409,147	\$425,658
All Other	\$852,590	\$852,590	\$853,845	\$854,091
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$1,209,560	\$1,228,455	\$1,262,992	\$1,279,749

DIRIGO HEALTH

DEPARTMENT TOTALS

GENERAL FUND

DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS

	2025-26	2026-27
	\$1,262,992	\$1,279,749
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$1,262,992	\$1,279,749

Sec. A-30. Appropriations and allocations.

The following appropriations and allocations are made.

HEALTH DATA ORGANIZATION, MAINE

Maine Health Data Organization 0848

Initiative: BASELINE BUDGET

	History 2023-24	History 2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS				
POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	6.000	6.000	6.000	6.000
Personal Services	\$627,692	\$658,809	\$688,128	\$743,343
All Other	\$1,462,940	\$1,462,940	\$1,462,940	\$1,462,940
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$2,090,632	\$2,121,749	\$2,151,068	\$2,206,283

Justification:

The Maine Health Data Organization was established in 1996 by the 117th Legislature as an independent executive agency to create and maintain a useful, objective, reliable and comprehensive health information database to improve the health of Maine citizens. The Maine Health Data Organization implements policies and procedures through the rulemaking process for the collection, processing, storage, analysis, and release of hospital inpatient, outpatient, emergency department, financial, and organizational data and all provider/all payer claims data. These data are made publicly accessible while protecting patient confidentiality and respecting providers of care. While the data are to be publicly available, the organization ensures that no patients are directly or indirectly identified. The Maine Health Data Organization is governed by a stakeholder board of directors comprised of 20 members representing the following interests: 4 consumers, 3 employers, 2 third-party payers, 9 providers (2 hospital, 2 physician, 1 chiropractor, 1 pharmacist, 1 ambulatory care, 1 mental health, 1 home health care), and 2 Department of Health and Human Services. The Health Data Organization receives its revenue through assessments from 4 different groups: hospitals (38.5%); non-hospital health care providers (11.5%); health insurance carriers (38.5%); and 3rd-party administrators (11.5%). Additional revenue is also derived from the sale of data and from contracts with other states to receive and process their own claims data. Any funds not expended at the end of a fiscal year are carried forward to the succeeding fiscal year and are subtracted from the legislatively authorized expenditure amount prior to the computation of the assessments. Some of the revenue is also used to pay 60% of the costs of the Maine Health Data Processing Center, a public-private partnership with the Maine Health Information Center that edits the all payer/all provider health care claims database system for the Maine Health Data Organization and other states. The organization also maintains an interactive web site - Health Web of Maine - that contains the following: a health care cost module; hospital inpatient, outpatient, emergency department interactive modules; a public health interactive module; quality data reports; and links to other state and federal health data.

Maine Health Data Organization 0848

Initiative: Provides funding for the Department's share of the cost for the financial and human resources service center within the Department of Administrative and Financial Services.

Ref. #: 1514

Committee Vote: IN 11-0

AFA Vote: _____

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$1,122	\$1,870
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$1,122	\$1,870

Justification:

Service Centers within DAFS provide centralized accounting, payroll, budgeting and human resources services to departments and agencies. Service Centers are established as an internal service funds intended to recoup their costs through billings to departments and agencies for services provided. The Service Centers expenses are higher due to negotiated and benefit changes to Personal Services as well as increases in operational costs. This recoupment process results in increased billing rates to departments and agencies.

Maine Health Data Organization 0848

Initiative: Provides funding for statewide technology services provided by the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Office of Information Technology.

Ref. #: 1515

Committee Vote: IN 11-0

AFA Vote: _____

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS

	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$1,930	\$1,930
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$1,930	\$1,930

Justification:

MaineIT is responsible for the delivery of safe, secure, and high-performing networks and systems to State Agencies for daily performance of their missions for the citizens of Maine. IT enterprise functions benefitting all state agencies are managed through this office to ensure consistency, volume discount efficiencies, and optimum performance and throughput. MaineIT is established as an internal service fund intended to recoup their costs through billings to departments and agencies for services provided. MaineIT expenses are higher due to negotiated and benefit changes to Personal Services as well as increases in operational costs, including vendor increases, supply chain costs, and network and systems modernization and upgrades. This recoupment process results in increased billing rates to departments and agencies.

MAINE HEALTH DATA ORGANIZATION 0848**PROGRAM SUMMARY**

	History 2023-24	History 2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS				
POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000
Personal Services	\$627,692	\$658,809	\$688,128	\$743,343
All Other	\$1,462,940	\$1,462,940	\$1,465,992	\$1,466,740
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$2,090,632	\$2,121,749	\$2,154,120	\$2,210,083

HEALTH DATA ORGANIZATION, MAINE

DEPARTMENT TOTALS	2025-26	2026-27
 OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	\$2,154,120	\$2,210,083
DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$2,154,120	\$2,210,083

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

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF

Maine Health Insurance Marketplace Trust Fund Z292

Initiative: BASELINE BUDGET

	History 2023-24	History 2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND				
All Other	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND TOTAL	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500
	History 2023-24	History 2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS				
POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	9.000	9.000	9.000	9.000
Personal Services	\$1,170,814	\$1,231,117	\$1,405,049	\$1,455,232
All Other	\$12,476,737	\$12,477,246	\$12,477,246	\$12,477,246
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$13,647,551	\$13,708,363	\$13,882,295	\$13,932,478

Justification:

The Maine Health Insurance Marketplace Trust Fund program supports Maine consumers in purchasing individual health insurance by providing marketing and outreach, individual assistance, and a platform for shopping and enrollment. Funding for this program is derived from a user fee charged on insurance companies offering plans on the Marketplace.

Maine Health Insurance Marketplace Trust Fund Z292

Initiative: Establishes one Public Service Coordinator II position in the Maine Health Insurance Marketplace Trust Fund program to serve as the data and reporting manager and provides funding for related All Other costs.

Ref. #: 2097

Committee Vote: IN 11-0

AFA Vote: _____

	2025-26	2026-27
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS		
POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	1.000	1.000
Personal Services	\$135,681	\$142,254
All Other	\$10,598	\$10,752
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$146,279	\$153,006

Justification:

The Maine Health Insurance Marketplace is established under 22 MRS§5403 to conduct the functions defined in 42 United States Code, Section 18031(d)(4). The purpose of the marketplace is to benefit the State's health insurance market and persons enrolling in health insurance policies, facilitate the purchase of qualified health plans, reduce the number of uninsured individuals, improve transparency and conduct consumer education and outreach. This request establishes one Data & Reporting Manager (PSCII position) to bring contracted services in-house as a dedicated resource and provides associated All Other funding. This initiative supports the Office of the Health Insurance Market's (OHIM) efforts to functionalize roles necessary to become more effective and efficient in meeting our mission. Currently, the Marketplace has a short-term temporary contracted position serving in this role despite this being an ongoing need of the marketplace. This position is necessary for federal and state reporting requirements as well as to inform OHIM of enrollment trends,

platform usage, and where to allocate funding. This role would monitor and maintain the CoverME.gov Data warehouse, create and maintain dashboards, and lead the reporting compliance activities for OHIM. This would save the office money, allowing savings to be dedicated elsewhere.

Maine Health Insurance Marketplace Trust Fund Z292

Initiative: Establishes one Senior Planner position in the Maine Health Insurance Marketplace Trust Fund program to serve as the program specialist and provides funding for related All Other costs.

Ref. #: 2098 Committee Vote: IN 11-0 AFA Vote: _____

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2025-26	2026-27
POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	1.000	1.000
Personal Services	\$106,169	\$111,186
All Other	\$9,907	\$10,025
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$116,076	\$121,211

Justification:

The Maine Health Insurance Marketplace is established under 22 MRS§5403 to conduct the functions defined in 42 United States Code, Section 18031(d)(4). The purpose of the marketplace is to benefit the State's health insurance market and persons enrolling in health insurance policies, facilitate the purchase of qualified health plans, reduce the number of uninsured individuals, improve transparency and conduct consumer education and outreach. This request establishes one Senior Planner position to provide special project and regulatory and compliance support to the Director, COO and Policy and Outreach Director and provides associated All Other Funding. The Marketplace is required by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to take part in an annual SMART Audit. The Office of Health Insurance Marketplace (OHIM) is in need of a point person to provide day-to-day oversight and project management for this annual audit. In addition, the office needs a team member who can provide research, report writing, and contract and project management support to office leadership in order to free up their time to engage in needed strategic planning and policy development, and high-level external relations.

Maine Health Insurance Marketplace Trust Fund Z292

Initiative: Provides allocation to align with available resources.

Ref. #: 2099 Committee Vote: IN 10-0 AFA Vote: _____

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$4,077,244	\$4,026,623
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$4,077,244	\$4,026,623

Justification:

This initiative will align the budget with available resources. Revenue is billed to and collected from insurance providers. A portion of expenses incurred in the Office for Health Insurance Marketplace are eligible for Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMP) from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, which is collected through the Department of Health and Human Services Public Assistance Cost Allocation Plan (PACAP).

**MAINE HEALTH INSURANCE MARKETPLACE TRUST FUND Z292
PROGRAM SUMMARY**

FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND	History 2023-24	History 2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND TOTAL	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	History 2023-24	History 2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	9.000	9.000	11.000	11.000
Personal Services	\$1,170,814	\$1,231,117	\$1,646,899	\$1,708,672
All Other	\$12,476,737	\$12,477,246	\$16,574,995	\$16,524,646
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$13,647,551	\$13,708,363	\$18,221,894	\$18,233,318

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF

DEPARTMENT TOTALS	2025-26	2026-27
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND	\$500	\$500
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	\$18,221,894	\$18,233,318
DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$18,222,394	\$18,233,818

Sec. A-49. Appropriations and allocations.

The following appropriations and allocations are made.

MAINE RETIREMENT SAVINGS BOARD

Maine Retirement Savings Program Z326

Initiative: BASELINE BUDGET

	History 2023-24	History 2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
MAINE RETIREMENT SAVINGS PROGRAM ENTERPRISE FUND				
All Other	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500
MAINE RETIREMENT SAVINGS PROGRAM ENTERPRISE FUND TOTAL	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500

**MAINE RETIREMENT SAVINGS PROGRAM Z326
PROGRAM SUMMARY**

	History 2023-24	History 2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
MAINE RETIREMENT SAVINGS PROGRAM ENTERPRISE FUND				
All Other	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500
MAINE RETIREMENT SAVINGS PROGRAM ENTERPRISE FUND TOTAL	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500

MAINE RETIREMENT SAVINGS BOARD

DEPARTMENT TOTALS	2025-26	2026-27
MAINE RETIREMENT SAVINGS PROGRAM ENTERPRISE FUND	\$500	\$500
DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$500	\$500

Sec. A-57. Appropriations and allocations.

The following appropriations and allocations are made.

OFFICE OF AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE

Office of Affordable Health Care Z320

Initiative: BASELINE BUDGET

	History 2023-24	History 2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
GENERAL FUND				
POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	3.000	3.000	3.000	3.000
Personal Services	\$349,816	\$375,123	\$443,277	\$469,803
All Other	\$185,065	\$190,321	\$190,321	\$190,321
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$534,881	\$565,444	\$633,598	\$660,124
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND				
All Other	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND TOTAL	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS				
All Other	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500

Justification:

The Office of Affordable Health Care is established as an independent executive agency for the purpose of analyzing health care costs in the State. The office's duties must be performed independently under the general policy direction of the legislative oversight committee and the advisory council. This program covers all responsibilities of the Office.

Office of Affordable Health Care Z320

Initiative: Provides one-time funding for renovations, furniture, and technology costs required to establish a leased space necessary for the continued operations of the Office of Affordable Health Care. This initiative also provides ongoing funding for leased space rent costs and contracted services necessary to monitor compliance with the provider price oversight program envisioned in the Office's legislative proposal.

Ref. #: 553

Committee Vote: IN 8-3

AFA Vote: _____

Opposed: Morris, Olsen, Cimino

	2025-26	2026-27
GENERAL FUND		
All Other	\$47,200	\$47,200
Capital Expenditures	\$55,000	\$0
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$102,200	\$47,200

Justification:

This initiative provides one-time funding for renovations, furniture, and technology costs required to establish a leased space necessary for the continued operations of the Office of Affordable Health Care. Additionally, this initiative provides ongoing funding for leased space rent costs and contracted services necessary to monitor compliance with the provider price oversight program envisioned in the Office's legislative proposal. Funding will be expended on contracts to track negotiated payments from health insurance carriers to hospitals and for audits of provider compliance as needed.

**OFFICE OF AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE Z320
PROGRAM SUMMARY**

	History 2023-24	History 2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
GENERAL FUND				
POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
Personal Services	\$349,816	\$375,123	\$443,277	\$469,803
All Other	\$185,065	\$190,321	\$237,521	\$237,521
Capital Expenditures	\$0	\$0	\$55,000	\$0
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$534,881	\$565,444	\$735,798	\$707,324
	History 2023-24	History 2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND				
All Other	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND TOTAL	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500
	History 2023-24	History 2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS				
All Other	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500

OFFICE OF AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE

DEPARTMENT TOTALS	2025-26	2026-27
GENERAL FUND	\$735,798	\$707,324
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND	\$500	\$500
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	\$500	\$500
DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$736,798	\$708,324

Sec. A-61. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

PROFESSIONAL AND FINANCIAL REGULATION, DEPARTMENT OF

American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 - Homeowner Assistance Fund Z301

Initiative: BASELINE BUDGET

	History 2023-24	History 2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND - ARP				
All Other	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND - ARP TOTAL	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500

Justification:

The program was established to protect the citizens of Maine from unfair and deceptive practices with respect to mortgage lending, consumer credit and debt collection and oversees many aspects of the consumer finance industry. The Maine Homeowner Assistance Fund (Maine HAF) is a federally-funded homeowner relief program established to help Maine homeowners struggling to pay their housing obligations. The American Rescue Plan passed by Congress in March of 2021 provided Maine with funds to help homeowners at risk of default, foreclosure, and displacement as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Maine HAF is administered by the Maine Bureau of Consumer Credit Protection.

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021 - HOMEOWNER ASSISTANCE FUND Z301

PROGRAM SUMMARY

	History 2023-24	History 2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND - ARP				
All Other	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND - ARP TOTAL	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500

Bureau of Consumer Credit Protection 0091

Initiative: BASELINE BUDGET

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	History 2023-24	History 2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	24.000	24.000	24.000	24.000
Personal Services	\$2,381,656	\$2,450,962	\$2,636,496	\$2,805,103
All Other	\$621,235	\$617,164	\$617,164	\$617,164
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$3,002,891	\$3,068,126	\$3,253,660	\$3,422,267

Justification:

The Bureau of Consumer Credit Protection protects the citizens of Maine from unfair and deceptive practices with respect to various financial services, including consumer credit and debt collection. This is accomplished through enforcing state laws to assist consumers who are subject to illegal credit-related practices, educating consumers and creditors as to their rights and responsibilities under those laws and encouraging the development of fair and economically-sound consumer credit practices. The agency enforces the Maine Consumer Credit Code, Title 9-A, as it applies to creditors and lenders, including non-bank mortgage lenders. Enforcement responsibilities also extend to other statutes, including the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, the Fair Credit Reporting Act, and Maine's Plain Language Law. The agency regulates retail creditors, pawnshops, rent-to-own stores, mortgage companies and brokers, loan arrangers and credit bureaus. The bureau administers the state's foreclosure assistance hotline, housing counseling and referral program. In addition, the office is responsible for ensuring legal compliance by money transmitters, money order issuers, operators of non-bank Automated Teller Machines, debt management service providers (credit counselors), payroll processors, real estate settlement companies, repossession companies, foreclosure property preservation companies and individual loan officers employed by non-bank lenders or loan brokers. The bureau enforces Truth in Lending, Regulation Z and credit disclosure requirements. Maine has received exemptions from federal oversight due to the State's diligent enforcement of the principles of the Truth-in-Lending Act and the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act.

BUREAU OF CONSUMER CREDIT PROTECTION 0091

PROGRAM SUMMARY

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	History 2023-24	History 2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	24.000	24.000	24.000	24.000
Personal Services	\$2,381,656	\$2,450,962	\$2,636,496	\$2,805,103
All Other	\$621,235	\$617,164	\$617,164	\$617,164
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$3,002,891	\$3,068,126	\$3,253,660	\$3,422,267

Financial Institutions - Bureau of 0093

Initiative: BASELINE BUDGET

	History 2023-24	History 2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS				
POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	18.000	18.000	18.000	18.000
Personal Services	\$2,129,274	\$2,168,947	\$2,314,011	\$2,453,788
All Other	\$645,359	\$645,359	\$645,359	\$645,359
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$2,774,633	\$2,814,306	\$2,959,370	\$3,099,147

Justification:

The Bureau of Financial Institutions is an agency within the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation. The bureau is funded by dedicated revenue from the financial institutions it regulates. The bureau regulates all state-chartered banks and credit unions through the administration and enforcement of the Maine Banking Code and the Maine Consumer Credit Code. The bureau is divided into 2 divisions: one for research, administration and regulatory activities and the other for examinations. The bureau's statutory mission is to assure the strength, stability and efficiency of all financial institutions, ensure reasonable and orderly competition, encourage the development and expansion of financial services advantageous to the public welfare and protect consumers against unfair practices by financial institutions that provide consumer credit.

Financial Institutions - Bureau of 0093

Initiative: Provides funding to establish a career ladder within the Bureau of Financial Institutions Bank Examiner job classification series.

Ref. #: 2824

Committee Vote: IN 11-0 AFA Vote: _____

	2025-26	2026-27
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS		
Personal Services	\$146,182	\$167,700
All Other	\$1,425	\$1,549
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$147,607	\$169,249

Justification:

The Bureau of Financial Institutions has experienced significant turnover on its examination team. The Bureau hopes to slow this by providing a clear path for career advancement to the bank examiners. The Bureau would like to adopt Maine Revenue Services' program that provides new examiners the ability to advance into senior position classifications without waiting for a vacancy at the higher classification level. This would help reduce departures of well-trained staff that frequently leave State service and take their training elsewhere for higher pay. The Bureau invests considerable time training examiners and needs to reward them to stay in State service. Automatic advancement, based on achievement of certain benchmark skills, would help retain staff crucial to the mission of the Bureau.

Financial Institutions - Bureau of 0093

Initiative: Establishes one part-time Office Specialist I position and provides funding for related All Other costs.

Ref. #: 2825

Committee Vote: IN 11-0 AFA Vote: _____

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2025-26	2026-27
POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	0.500	0.500
Personal Services	\$41,965	\$45,819
All Other	\$280	\$306
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$42,245	\$46,125

Justification:

The Bureau has only one administrative staff person. This person performs important office functions managing pre-exam materials, exam documents and travel for the exam team as well as other administrative duties. The Bureau needs to add a part-time position to assist this busy function, and to assist with the duties of the Superintendent. The new part-time position would also be available in the event of any absences of the current Office Specialist I. The Bureau would be at significant disadvantage should the current Office Specialist need extended leave.

Financial Institutions - Bureau of 0093

Initiative: Provides funding to increase the hours of one Bank Examiner position from 57 hours to 80 hours biweekly and for related All Other costs.

Ref. #: 2826

Committee Vote: IN 11-0

AFA Vote: _____

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2025-26	2026-27
Personal Services	\$27,511	\$28,635
All Other	\$184	\$191
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$27,695	\$28,826

Justification:

The Bureau needs to increase its part-time Bank Examiner position to full time. Recruitment and training of a part-time examiner position is not workable. The position was reduced to part time in order to fund the reclassification of another position as part of an examiner retention effort. The position was vacant at time of reduction to part-time status. A full-time position is needed so the Bureau may recruit and train new examiners.

**FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS - BUREAU OF 0093
PROGRAM SUMMARY**

	History 2023-24	History 2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS				
POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	18.000	18.000	18.500	18.500
Personal Services	\$2,129,274	\$2,168,947	\$2,529,669	\$2,695,942
All Other	\$645,359	\$645,359	\$647,248	\$647,405
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$2,774,633	\$2,814,306	\$3,176,917	\$3,343,347

Insurance - Bureau of 0092

Initiative: BASELINE BUDGET

	History 2023-24	History 2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND				
All Other	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND TOTAL	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
	History 2023-24	History 2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS				
POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	72.000	73.000	73.000	73.000
Personal Services	\$8,196,253	\$8,511,671	\$9,411,882	\$10,019,439
All Other	\$3,802,204	\$3,863,179	\$3,817,929	\$3,817,929
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$11,998,457	\$12,374,850	\$13,229,811	\$13,837,368
	History 2023-24	History 2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND - ARP STATE FISCAL RECOVERY				
All Other	\$12,900	\$500	\$500	\$500
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND - ARP STATE FISCAL RECOVERY TOTAL	\$12,900	\$500	\$500	\$500

Justification:

The Bureau of Insurance is responsible for the regulation and supervision of the insurance industry in Maine. This includes, but is not limited to, insurance companies, producers (formerly referred to as agents), health maintenance organizations (HMOs), employers' self-insured for workers' compensation and other insurance entities. To meet this responsibility, the bureau is empowered to license insurance companies to operate in the State of Maine, as well as non-profit hospital, medical or other health service organizations, health maintenance organizations, captive insurance companies, insurance producers, medical utilization review entities, third-party administrators, continuing care retirement communities, advisory organizations and reinsurance intermediaries/managers. The bureau registers preferred provider organizations, risk purchasing groups, risk retention groups, managing general agents and employee leasing plans. The bureau regularly conducts financial examinations of all domestic insurers as well as market conduct examinations to determine compliance with the Maine Insurance Code. Bureau staff also reviews the financial statements, Securities and Exchange Commission filings and other publicly available information on all licensed and authorized insurance companies doing business in Maine. The financial review emphasis is placed on domestic insurance companies. The bureau also examines and issues licenses to qualified applicants as insurance producers, consultants and adjusters. All policy forms and contracts used in Maine must be filed by insurance companies for approval by the bureau which administers the rating laws that apply to certain lines of insurance. The bureau may seek suspension or revocation of licenses in instances where licensees have failed to comply with the statutory provisions of Maine Revised Statutes, Title 24 and Maine Revised Statutes, Title 24-A and the lawful regulations of the bureau.

Insurance - Bureau of 0092

Initiative: Provides funding for cost increases for services provided by the Office of the Attorney General and related All Other costs.

Ref. #: 2820

Committee Vote: IN 11-0 AFA Vote: _____

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2025-26	2026-27
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All Other	\$48,032	\$84,759
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$48,032	\$84,759

Justification:

The increased costs for legal services provided by the Office of the Attorney General cannot be offset with reductions in other expense categories.

**INSURANCE - BUREAU OF 0092
PROGRAM SUMMARY**

FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND	History 2023-24	History 2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND TOTAL	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	History 2023-24	History 2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	72,000	73,000	73,000	73,000
Personal Services	\$8,196,253	\$8,511,671	\$9,411,882	\$10,019,439
All Other	\$3,802,204	\$3,863,179	\$3,865,961	\$3,902,688
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$11,998,457	\$12,374,850	\$13,277,843	\$13,922,127

FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND - ARP STATE FISCAL RECOVERY	History 2023-24	History 2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$12,900	\$500	\$500	\$500
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND - ARP STATE FISCAL RECOVERY TOTAL	\$12,900	\$500	\$500	\$500

Licensure in Medicine - Board of 0376

Initiative: BASELINE BUDGET

	History 2023-24	History 2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS				
POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	11.000	12.500	12.500	12.500
POSITIONS - FTE COUNT	0.770	0.770	0.847	0.847
Personal Services	\$1,298,209	\$1,395,611	\$1,528,438	\$1,630,403
All Other	\$929,360	\$955,713	\$955,713	\$955,713
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$2,227,569	\$2,351,324	\$2,484,151	\$2,586,116

Justification:

The Board of Licensure in Medicine was established in 1896 to safeguard the lives and health of the people of Maine through regulation of medical practice. The board, funded solely from fees from its licensees, is charged to license and establish the minimum qualifications and standards of medical practice, grant or withhold the privilege to practice medicine after examining the qualifications of physician and physician assistant applicants, and biennially review these professionals based upon appropriate continuing medical education and professional conduct; discipline and enforce the Medical Practice Act, Title 24, to investigate complaints and allegations of noncompliance with the laws and board rules relating to physicians, surgeons and physician assistants, to hold public disciplinary hearings and take action in the form of probation, censure, reprimand, fine, suspension, or license revocation; educate and provide appropriate clinical and professional standards for licensees, educate the public, through the board's consumer assistant, regarding acceptable clinical care, and make detailed reports to the public and to national databases regarding discipline. The board also coordinates with other state and international regulators regarding cross-border licensing, medical practice and professional performance, and cross-border drug issues.

Licensure in Medicine - Board of 0376

Initiative: Provides funding for statewide technology services provided by the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Office of Information Technology.

Ref. #: 2859

Committee Vote: IN 11-0 AFA Vote: _____

	2025-26	2026-27
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS		
All Other	\$19,394	\$19,586
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$19,394	\$19,586

Justification:

MaineIT is responsible for the delivery of safe, secure, and high-performing networks and systems to State Agencies for daily performance of their missions for the citizens of Maine. IT enterprise functions benefitting all state agencies are managed through this office to ensure consistency, volume discount efficiencies, and optimum performance and throughput. MaineIT is established as an internal service fund intended to recoup their costs through billings to departments and agencies for services provided. MaineIT expenses are higher due to negotiated and benefit changes to Personal Services as well as increases in operational costs, including vendor increases, supply chain costs, and network and systems modernization and upgrades. This recoupment process results in increased billing rates to departments and agencies.

Licensure in Medicine - Board of 0376

Justification:

The higher anticipated expenses across various categories will enable the board to maintain and improve the quality of services provided. These increased costs cannot be offset with reductions in other expense categories.

Licensure in Medicine - Board of 0376

Initiative: Provides one-time funding to align with anticipated expenses.

Ref. #: 2863 One Time Committee Vote: IN 11-0 AFA Vote: _____

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$20,223	\$0
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	<u>\$20,223</u>	<u>\$0</u>

Justification:

The higher anticipated expenses across various categories will enable the board to maintain and improve the quality of services provided. These increased one-time costs cannot be offset with reductions in other expense categories.

**LICENSURE IN MEDICINE - BOARD OF 0376
PROGRAM SUMMARY**

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	History 2023-24	History 2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	11.000	12.500	12.500	12.500
POSITIONS - FTE COUNT	0.770	0.770	0.847	0.847
Personal Services	\$1,298,209	\$1,395,611	\$1,528,438	\$1,630,403
All Other	\$929,360	\$955,713	\$1,107,844	\$1,120,524
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	<u>\$2,227,569</u>	<u>\$2,351,324</u>	<u>\$2,636,282</u>	<u>\$2,750,927</u>

Nursing - Board of 0372

Initiative: BASELINE BUDGET

	History 2023-24	History 2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND				
All Other	\$10,144	\$10,144	\$10,144	\$10,144
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND TOTAL	\$10,144	\$10,144	\$10,144	\$10,144
	History 2023-24	History 2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS				
POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	8,000	8,000	8,000	8,000
Personal Services	\$906,685	\$842,624	\$934,362	\$991,258
All Other	\$577,818	\$609,816	\$609,816	\$609,816
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$1,484,503	\$1,452,440	\$1,544,178	\$1,601,074

Justification:

The State Board of Nursing was established to protect the public through regulation of nursing practice to maintain high professional standards. The primary responsibilities are to license, by examination or endorsement, all applicants qualified to practice as registered nurses, licensed practical nurses or advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) - which include certified registered nurse anesthetists, nurse practitioners, certified nurse midwives and clinical nurse specialists; to renew the licenses of all qualified registered nurses and practical nurses and APRNs; to investigate complaints of unsafe nursing practice or any violation of laws relating to nursing and determine, in collaboration with the Attorney General, if the case should be presented for a formal hearing; to adopt rules and regulations governing licensure of nurses and other matters within its jurisdiction; and to approve curriculum for programs of training that prepare certified nursing assistants to perform selected nursing services when such services are delegated by a registered nurse. Additional responsibilities of the board are to prescribe curricula and establish standards for educational programs preparing persons for licensure as registered nurses or as licensed practical nurses; to approve nursing educational programs in the State that meet the requirements of law and the standards established by the board; to survey all such nursing educational programs as deemed necessary to determine that the requirements of the law and board standards are being maintained; to deny or withdraw approval from such nursing educational programs for failure to meet requirements; and to approve the credentials of registered nurses who have completed an educational program that prepares the registered nurse to function as an advanced practice registered nurse.

Nursing - Board of 0372

Initiative: Establishes one Office Specialist I position and provides funding for related All Other costs.

Ref. #: 2853

Committee Vote: IN 11-0

AFA Vote: _____

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2025-26	2026-27
POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	1,000	1,000
Personal Services	\$83,465	\$90,097
All Other	\$7,333	\$5,594
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$90,798	\$95,691

Justification:

This request establishes one Office Specialist I position to provide office and administrative support to assist with meeting operational needs in the Board of Nursing and provides associated All Other funding.

Nursing - Board of 0372

Initiative: Provides funding for statewide technology services provided by the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Office of Information Technology.

Ref. #: 2854

Committee Vote: IN 11-0

AFA Vote: _____

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$13,568	\$13,752
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$13,568	\$13,752

Justification:

MaineIT is responsible for the delivery of safe, secure, and high-performing networks and systems to State Agencies for daily performance of their missions for the citizens of Maine. IT enterprise functions benefitting all state agencies are managed through this office to ensure consistency, volume discount efficiencies, and optimum performance and throughput. MaineIT is established as an internal service fund intended to recoup their costs through billings to departments and agencies for services provided. MaineIT expenses are higher due to negotiated and benefit changes to Personal Services as well as increases in operational costs, including vendor increases, supply chain costs, and network and systems modernization and upgrades. This recoupment process results in increased billing rates to departments and agencies.

Nursing - Board of 0372

Initiative: Provides funding for cost increases for services provided by the Department of the Attorney General and related All Other costs.

Ref. #: 2855

Committee Vote: IN 11-0

AFA Vote: _____

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$53,372	\$69,250
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$53,372	\$69,250

Justification:

The increased costs for legal services provided by the Office of the Attorney General cannot be offset with reductions in other expense categories.

Nursing - Board of 0372

Initiative: Provides funding to align with anticipated expenses.

Ref. #: 2856

Committee Vote: IN 11-0

AFA Vote: _____

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$22,848	\$22,848
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$22,848	\$22,848

Justification:

The higher anticipated expenses across various categories will enable the board to maintain and improve the quality of services provided. These increased costs cannot be offset with reductions in other expense categories.

**NURSING - BOARD OF 0372
PROGRAM SUMMARY**

FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND	History 2023-24	History 2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$10,144	\$10,144	\$10,144	\$10,144
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND TOTAL	\$10,144	\$10,144	\$10,144	\$10,144

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	History 2023-24	History 2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	8.000	8.000	9.000	9.000
Personal Services	\$906,685	\$842,624	\$1,017,827	\$1,081,355
All Other	\$577,818	\$609,816	\$706,937	\$721,260
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$1,484,503	\$1,452,440	\$1,724,764	\$1,802,615

Office of Securities 0943

Initiative: BASELINE BUDGET

	History 2023-24	History 2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND				
All Other	\$10,113	\$10,113	\$10,113	\$10,113
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND TOTAL	\$10,113	\$10,113	\$10,113	\$10,113
	History 2023-24	History 2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS				
POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	17,000	17,000	17,000	17,000
Personal Services	\$1,876,015	\$1,930,006	\$2,061,327	\$2,202,276
All Other	\$813,639	\$752,567	\$752,567	\$752,567
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$2,689,654	\$2,682,573	\$2,813,894	\$2,954,843

Justification:

The Office of Securities was formed to protect Maine citizens against fraud and other abusive practices in connection with the sale of securities. The office's major functions include licensing persons engaged in the business of selling securities or providing investment advice, registering securities being offered and sold in Maine and investigating and prosecuting alleged violations of the securities laws. The office conducts outreach for licensees and investors and aids small business owners who are seeking to raise capital. The Office of Securities administers and enforces the Maine Uniform Securities Act, the laws governing the sale of business opportunities and the Maine Commodity Code.

**OFFICE OF SECURITIES 0943
PROGRAM SUMMARY**

	History 2023-24	History 2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND				
All Other	\$10,113	\$10,113	\$10,113	\$10,113
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND TOTAL	\$10,113	\$10,113	\$10,113	\$10,113
	History 2023-24	History 2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS				
POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	17,000	17,000	17,000	17,000
Personal Services	\$1,876,015	\$1,930,006	\$2,061,327	\$2,202,276
All Other	\$813,639	\$752,567	\$752,567	\$752,567
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$2,689,654	\$2,682,573	\$2,813,894	\$2,954,843

Optometry - Board of 0385

Initiative: BASELINE BUDGET

	History 2023-24	History 2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS				
POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000
Personal Services	\$65,039	\$65,791	\$72,890	\$76,252
All Other	\$39,011	\$39,484	\$39,484	\$39,484
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$104,050	\$105,275	\$112,374	\$115,736

Justification:

The State Board of Optometry was established to protect the public through the regulation of the practice of optometry in the State of Maine by maintaining high professional standards. The responsibilities of the board are to examine and license qualified applicants to practice the profession of optometry in the State of Maine, to renew all licenses upon payment of a specified fee and proof that the licensee attended the required educational programs approved by the board, and to revoke, refuse or suspend any license for violation of the laws relating to optometry. The board also investigates all complaints and cases of noncompliance with optometry laws, rules and regulations, conducts hearings and brings all such cases to the attention of the proper prosecuting officer.

Optometry - Board of 0385

Initiative: Provides funding to increase the hours of one Office Specialist II position from 60 hours to 80 hours biweekly and for related All Other costs.

Ref. #: 2873

Committee Vote: IN 11-0 AFA Vote: _____

	2025-26	2026-27
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS		
Personal Services	\$23,723	\$24,269
All Other	\$931	\$953
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$24,654	\$25,222

Justification:

The number of hours needed in this position has increased due to both the higher number of licensees and volume of complaints.

Optometry - Board of 0385

Initiative: Provides funding for statewide technology services provided by the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Office of Information Technology.

Ref. #: 2874

Committee Vote: IN 11-0 AFA Vote: _____

	2025-26	2026-27
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS		
All Other	\$917	\$917
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$917	\$917

Justification:

MaineIT is responsible for the delivery of safe, secure, and high-performing networks and systems to State Agencies for daily performance of their missions for the citizens of Maine. IT enterprise functions benefitting all state agencies are managed through this office to ensure consistency, volume discount efficiencies, and optimum performance and throughput. MaineIT is established as an internal service fund intended to recoup their costs through billings to departments and agencies for services provided. MaineIT expenses are higher due to negotiated and benefit changes to Personal Services as well as increases in operational costs, including vendor increases, supply chain costs, and network and systems modernization and upgrades. This recoupment process results in increased billing rates to departments and agencies.

Optometry - Board of 0385

Initiative: Provides funding for statewide insurance coverage provided through the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, risk management division based on claims experience, coverage increases, attorney's fees on claims and actuarially recommended reserves.

Ref. #: 2875 Committee Vote: IN 11-0 AFA Vote: _____

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$1,559	\$1,559
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$1,559	\$1,559

Justification:

The Division of Risk Management within DAFS provides high quality insurance, loss control and claims services to all state agencies, the State's higher education institutions and some quasi-state agencies at the lowest possible cost. The rates are applicable to various insurance lines provided by the State's self-insurance program and have been calculated in accordance with Title 5§1733. The 2026-2027 budget includes rate increases in the Tort Policy based on claims experience, coverage increases, attorney fees on claims, and actuarially recommended reserves.

Optometry - Board of 0385

Initiative: Provides funding for cost increases for services provided by the Department of the Attorney General and related All Other costs.

Ref. #: 2876 Committee Vote: IN 11-0 AFA Vote: _____

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$0	\$663
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$0	\$663

Justification:

The increased costs for legal services provided by the Office of the Attorney General cannot be offset with reductions in other expense categories.

Optometry - Board of 0385

Initiative: Provides funding to align with anticipated expenses.

Ref. #: 2877

Committee Vote: IN 11-0

AFA Vote: _____

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$6,170	\$6,170
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$6,170	\$6,170

Justification:

The higher anticipated expenses across various categories will enable the board to maintain and improve the quality of services provided. These increased costs cannot be offset with reductions in other expense categories.

**OPTOMETRY - BOARD OF 0385
PROGRAM SUMMARY**

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	History 2023-24	History 2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000
Personal Services	\$65,039	\$65,791	\$96,613	\$100,521
All Other	\$39,011	\$39,484	\$49,061	\$49,746
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$104,050	\$105,275	\$145,674	\$150,267

Justification:

MaineIT is responsible for the delivery of safe, secure, and high-performing networks and systems to State Agencies for daily performance of their missions for the citizens of Maine. IT enterprise functions benefitting all state agencies are managed through this office to ensure consistency, volume discount efficiencies, and optimum performance and throughput. MaineIT is established as an internal service fund intended to recoup their costs through billings to departments and agencies for services provided. MaineIT expenses are higher due to negotiated and benefit changes to Personal Services as well as increases in operational costs, including vendor increases, supply chain costs, and network and systems modernization and upgrades. This recoupment process results in increased billing rates to departments and agencies.

Osteopathic Licensure - Board of 0383

Initiative: Provides funding for statewide insurance coverage provided through the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, risk management division based on claims experience, coverage increases, attorney's fees on claims and actuarially recommended reserves.

Ref. #: 2868

Committee Vote: IN 11-0

AFA Vote: _____

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$2,393	\$2,393
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$2,393	\$2,393

Justification:

The Division of Risk Management within DAFS provides high quality insurance, loss control and claims services to all state agencies, the State's higher education institutions and some quasi-state agencies at the lowest possible cost. The rates are applicable to various insurance lines provided by the State's self-insurance program and have been calculated in accordance with Title 5§1733. The 2026-2027 budget includes rate increases in the Tort Policy based on claims experience, coverage increases, attorney fees on claims, and actuarially recommended reserves.

Osteopathic Licensure - Board of 0383

Initiative: Provides funding for cost increases for services provided by the Department of the Attorney General and related All Other costs.

Ref. #: 2869

Committee Vote: IN 11-0

AFA Vote: _____

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$15,462	\$26,185
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$15,462	\$26,185

Justification:

The increased costs for legal services provided by the Office of the Attorney General cannot be offset with reductions in other expense categories.

Osteopathic Licensure - Board of 0383

Initiative: Provides funding to align with anticipated expenses.

Ref. #: 2870

Committee Vote: IN 11-0

AFA Vote: _____

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS

	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$2,863	\$3,040
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$2,863	\$3,040

Justification:

The higher anticipated expenses across various categories will enable the board to maintain and improve the quality of services provided. These increased costs cannot be offset with reductions in other expense categories.

**OSTEOPATHIC LICENSURE - BOARD OF 0383
PROGRAM SUMMARY**

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	History 2023-24	History 2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	1.000	1.000	2.000	2.000
Personal Services	\$108,188	\$110,105	\$182,440	\$196,542
All Other	\$204,000	\$218,900	\$250,481	\$259,710
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$312,188	\$329,005	\$432,921	\$456,252

Securities Restitution Assistance Fund Z352

Initiative: BASELINE BUDGET

	History 2023-24	History 2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS				
All Other	\$532,000	\$532,000	\$532,000	\$532,000
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$532,000	\$532,000	\$532,000	\$532,000

Justification:

The Office of Securities administers and enforces the Maine Uniform Securities Act, the Maine Commodities Code, and the Business Opportunity Act. The office responds to consumer complaints; investigates possible violations of the securities laws and may take administrative action or refer matters to the Attorney General for civil or criminal action. Through these actions the Office may obtain restitution for investors harmed by the actions of licensees. The Securities Restitution Assistance Fund was established to provide financial assistance to victims of securities violations that have been awarded restitution in a final order issued by the Securities Administrator or were awarded restitution in a final order in a legal action initiated by the administrator and that have not received the full amount of restitution ordered before the application for restitution assistance is due.

SECURITIES RESTITUTION ASSISTANCE FUND Z352

PROGRAM SUMMARY

	History 2023-24	History 2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS				
All Other	\$532,000	\$532,000	\$532,000	\$532,000
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$532,000	\$532,000	\$532,000	\$532,000

PROFESSIONAL AND FINANCIAL REGULATION, DEPARTMENT OF

DEPARTMENT TOTALS	2025-26	2026-27
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND	\$30,257	\$30,257
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	\$27,993,955	\$29,334,645
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND - ARP STATE FISCAL RECOVERY	\$500	\$500
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND - ARP	\$500	\$500
DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	<u>\$28,025,212</u>	<u>\$29,365,902</u>

PART O
Committee Vote: OUT 11-0

PART O

Sec. O-1. 5 MRSA §285, sub-§1, ¶F-13 is enacted to read:

F-13. Any employee of the Maine Developmental Services Oversight and Advisory Board;

**PART O
SUMMARY**

This Part authorizes employees of the Maine Developmental Services Oversight and Advisory Board to participate in the state health insurance plan.

PART OO
Committee Vote: IN 11-0

PART OO

Sec. OO-1. Personal Services balances; Maine Health Data Organization; transfers authorized. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in the 2026-2027 biennium, the Maine Health Data Organization is authorized to transfer up to \$300,000 in each fiscal year, available balances of Personal Services allocations, after all salary, benefit and other obligations are met, to the All Other line category in the Maine Health Data Organization, Other Special Revenue Funds account.

**PART OO
SUMMARY**

This Part authorizes transfers of Personal Services to All Other in the Maine Health Data Organization, Other Special Revenue Funds account.

PART TTT
Committee Vote: IN 11-0

PART TTT

Sec. TTT-1. Promotion adjustments in Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Bureau of Financial institutions. There is created within the Department of Professional and Financial Regulations, Bureau of Financial Institutions a promotion process based on professional benchmark competencies.

1. A person employed by the Bureau as a Bank Examiner may be promoted to a Senior Bank Examiner if that person demonstrates achievement of certain competency benchmarks as determined by the bureau.
2. A person employed by the Bureau as a Senior Bank Examiner may be promoted to a Principal Bank Examiner if that person demonstrates achievement of certain competency benchmarks as determined by the bureau.

PART TTT SUMMARY

This Part establishes a career ladder for the Bank Examiner job classifications within the Department of Professional and Financial Regulations, Bureau of Financial Institutions. The changes will improve the ability of the Bureau to attract and retain capable examiners in order to respond to the increasing complexities of the work.

SENATE

DONNA BAILEY, DISTRICT 31, CHAIR
JOSEPH M. BALDACCI, DISTRICT 9
DAVID G. HAGGAN, DISTRICT 10

COLLEEN MCCARTHY REID, PRINCIPAL LEGISLATIVE ANALYST
EDNA CAYFORD, COMMITTEE CLERK



HOUSE

KRISTI MICHELE MATHIESON, KITTERY, CHAIR
POPPY ARFORD, BRUNSWICK
ANNE-MARIE MASTRACCIO, SANFORD
MICHELLE NICOLE BOYER, CAPE ELIZABETH
SALLY JEANE CLUCHEY, BOWDOINHAM
ROBERT A. FOLEY, WELLS *
JOSHUA MORRIS, TURNER
ROLF A. OLSEN, JR., RAYMOND
PAUL R. FLYNN, ALBION
MARYGRACE CAROLINE CIMINO, BRIDGTON

STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY SECOND LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

MEMORANDUM

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

FROM: Senator Donna Bailey, Senate Chair *DB*
Representative Kristi Mathieson, House Chair *KM (Chair)*
Joint Standing Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services

DATE: January 28, 2025

RE: Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services Committee's Recommendations on the Governor's Supplemental Budget Bill (LD 209)

We are writing to provide the recommendations of the Joint Standing Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services on the initiatives under the committee's policy jurisdiction included in the Governor's Supplemental Budget Bill (LD 209). These items were considered in a joint public hearing on January 23, 2025. At a separate work session on January 28, 2025, the committee reviewed and discussed these initiatives. We make the following recommendations.

The members present at the January 28th meeting voted as follows on the initiatives:

- 11-0¹ **IN** on the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, State Mandate Defrayal Z373 (Ref. #15)

While all members who voted support the reduction in funding to support the ongoing costs of defrayal for the cost of mandating coverage for fertility services, the following members of the committee also recommend the repeal of Public Law 2021, chapter 692, An Act To Provide Access to Fertility Care for all state-regulated health plans: Rep. Foley, Rep. Cimino, Rep. Flynn, Rep. Morris and Rep. Olsen.

- 8-3² **OUT as Amended** on Part K language

Those members voting in favor of this motion recommend the removal of Part K from LD 209 as amended. The members recommend that the provisions of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22, section

¹ Voting in favor were Sen. Bailey, Rep. Mathieson, Rep. Arford, Rep. Boyer, Rep. Cluchey, Rep. Mastraccio, Rep. Foley, Rep. Cimino, Rep. Flynn, Rep. Morris and Rep. Olsen. Absent were Sen. Baldacci and Sen. Haggan.

² Voting in favor were Sen. Bailey, Rep. Mathieson, Rep. Cluchey, Rep. Mastraccio, Rep. Foley, Rep. Flynn, Rep. Morris and Rep. Olsen. Voting in opposition were Rep. Arford, Rep. Boyer, and Rep. Cimino. Absent were Sen. Baldacci and Sen. Haggan.

259, subsection 1-D and subsection 3 be retained in law as amended to reduce the required funding for federally-qualified health centers in fiscal year 24-25 from \$4 million to \$3.3 million. The members recommend that this \$3.3 million in funding should come from the reduction in the State Mandate Defrayal account as described in the first initiative. We will be happy to provide draft language at the committee's request.

Although two of the members who voted against the motion³ support the majority's recommendation that the language in Part K be removed, these members recommend that the \$3.3 million in funding that reverts to the General Fund from the reduction in the State Mandate Defrayal account should be split: half of that amount should be appropriated to federally-qualified health centers as provided in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22, section 259, subsection 1-D and subsection 3 and half of that amount should be appropriated to support cost-of-living adjustments for reimbursement rates for essential support workers pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22, section 7402.

One member who voted against the motion⁴ does not support the committee's recommended use of General Fund funding from these purposes.

Attached please find the "HCIFS report-back template" on which Committee votes on the individual budget initiatives are recorded.

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 Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services
Members, Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

³ Rep. Arford and Rep. Boyer voted in this manner.

⁴ Rep. Cimino voted in this manner.

Sec. A-1. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF

State Benefit Mandate Defrayal Z373

Initiative: Reduces funding for the cost of the benefit mandate providing coverage of infertility treatment under Public Law 2021, chapter 692.

Ref. #: 15	One Time	Committee Vote: <u>11-0*</u>	AFA Vote _____		
		*5 members also recommend repeal of PL 2021, chapter 692: Foley, Cimino, Flynn, Morris and Olsen			
GENERAL FUND			2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
All Other			(\$3,300,000)	\$0	\$0
GENERAL FUND TOTAL			<u>(\$3,300,000)</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

Justification:

This initiative reduces funding for the cost of the benefit mandate providing coverage of infertility treatment based on updated actuarial estimates. The defrayal account and payment process is shared between DAFS and the Bureau of Insurance (BOI). The Program is in DAFS; rules and mandate studies to estimate defrayal costs as well as finalizing actual payments are in BOI. Once determined through the BOI process, DAFS will issue the payments to the relevant carriers.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF

DEPARTMENT TOTALS	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
GENERAL FUND	(\$3,300,000)	\$0	\$0
DEPARTMENT TOTAL- ALL FUNDS	<u>(\$3,300,000)</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

Committee Vote: 8-3 OUT as Amended;
In favor: Bailey, Mathieson, Cluchey, Mastraccio,
Foley, Flynn, Morris and Olsen
Opposed: Arford, Boyer and Cimino

PART K

Sec. K-1. 22 MRSA §259, sub-§1-D and sub-§3, as enacted by PL 2023, c. 643, Pt. QQ, §3 and §4, are repealed.

**PART K
SUMMARY**