## **Testimony of Jenny Boyden, Associate Commissioner Department of Administrative and Financial Services**

## Before the Joint Standing Committees on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and Education and Cultural Affairs

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

## January 22, 2025

Good afternoon, Senator Rotundo, Representative Gattine, and members of the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs; Senator Rafferty, Representative Murphy and members of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs. I am Jenny Boyden, the Associate Commissioner of the Department of Administrative and Financial Services. I am here today to present a portion of the fiscal year 2025 supplemental budget bill.

## **Department of Administrative and Financial Services – Part E**

**Part E on page 3** of the language document authorizes a one-time transfer of unobligated balance in the Statewide-Family and Medical Leave, General Fund and Highway Fund accounts within the Department of Administrative and Financial Services to the University of Maine System, General Fund account for the purpose of supporting Maine's Paid Family and Medical Leave premiums for eligible University of Maine System employees.

As a reminder, Public Law 2023, Chapter 412 included a General Fund appropriation of \$984,444 and Highway Fund allocation of \$272,075 in fiscal year 2025 to support the State's share of the premium contributions for the family and medical leave benefits which became effective January 1, 2025. Part E authorizes unobligated funds from these balances, to be calculated after the April 2025 payment, to be transferred to the University System to support their fiscal year 2025 costs. Budget initiatives appropriating funds to the Maine Community College System and Maine Maritime Academy appear on pages A-10 (\$209,609) and A-40 (\$65,000) respectively. DAFS proposed this option as a way to provide support to the University System without increasing General Fund appropriations.

This concludes my testimony. Thank you.