

**Testimony of the Department of Health and Human Services
Acting Deputy Commissioner of Finance Todd Haber**

Before the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and
The Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services

LD 2212, An Act to Make Supplemental Appropriations and Allocations from the General Fund and Other Funds for the Expenditures of State Government and Changing Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 2026 and June 30, 2027

Hearing Date: February 18, 2026

Senator Rotundo, Representative Gattine, Senator Ingwersen, Representative Meyer, Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services; my name is Todd Haber, Acting Deputy Commissioner of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). I am here today to outline initiatives in the supplemental budget proposal related to the Department of Health and Human Services and speak in support of LD 2212.

The Maine Department of Health and Human Services is dedicated to promoting health, safety, resilience, and opportunity for Maine people. The Department provides health and social services to roughly a third of the State's population, including children, families, older Mainers, and individuals with disabilities, mental health needs, and substance use disorders. The leadership of the Department understands the importance of these services to the health and wellbeing of not only the people accessing these services but of their families as well.

As you are aware, this is the final budget proposal from the Mills Administration. Broadly, the proposal delivers financial relief to Maine people, preserves programs lawmakers and Maine people support, and addresses some emergent issues, including impacts of new federal legislation. Governor Mills' guiding belief has always been that our strongest asset is the people of Maine and that's why this budget, like those in the past, seeks to invest in and support them. The Administration looks forward to working with the Legislature in the coming weeks to enact a balanced budget that supports Maine people and protects the fiscal health of our state. And with that, I will now turn to speaking more specifically to the contents contained in the Governor's Supplemental Budget.

In light of the tight budget environment, even as expenses and expectations increase, we are proposing to continue most of our operations within existing budgeted amounts. The requests we are proposing are focused on compliance with new federal legislation and maintaining funding for critical health services. I appreciate the opportunity to now speak more specifically to the contents related to the Department of Health and Human Services in the Governor's Supplemental Budget proposal.

Departmental Supplemental Initiatives

The State's collective bargaining unit agreements include negotiated language related to the budgeting process. Reclasses may be initiated by the employee (usually referred to as reclass) or management (usually referred to as reorganization). Approved employee-initiated actions include a retroactive pay component back to the date the request was signed. Our Department's reclass and reorganization requests are summarized at the end of testimony as Appendix A. While we won't read the specifics, we have included the blippie and justification in this testimony on the relevant page in italics for your reference.

Our proposal includes the addition of 105.5 positions. We recognize this request is significant, but we have worked to minimize our request to those positions that are imperative for compliance with federal community engagement requirements, minimizing federal cost sharing within the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance program, and supporting critical health infrastructure. I will describe the need and impact of each request throughout my testimony.

This proposal also includes references to the July 2025 Federal Budget Reconciliation law, P.L. 119-21, the so-called One Big Beautiful Bill Act, or also referred to as H.R.1.

This proposal also includes language requesting the move of some Personal Services to All Other. This is language that will allow agencies to self-fund a small number of emergent operating expenses through this biennial. Throughout the dozen agencies with this language, it amounts to a total of \$6.7 million in fiscal year 2025-2026 and \$5.3 million in fiscal year 2026-2027. For our agency, this is Language Part EEE, and amounts to \$1,040,664 and \$800,000 in fiscal year 2025-2026 and fiscal year 2026-2027, respectively. I will be testifying in detail on what our agency needs are related to the amount in this language.

The Department's budget starts on page **A-53**.

Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention

The first program on page **A-53** is **Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention – 0143**. This program has 4 initiatives.

1. The first initiative (F-A-1127) on page **A-53** provides funding for the approved reclassification of one Public Health Educator III position to a Comprehensive Health Planner II position, retroactive to February 11, 2025, and approved by the Bureau of Human Resources on June 9, 2025. This initiative also provides funding for a one-time retroactive payment. This initiative increases Fund for a Healthy Maine Personal Services allocation by \$11,775 in state fiscal year

2026 and \$5,079 in state fiscal year 2027. There are no new positions associated with this initiative.

1. The first initiative (F-A-1127) on page A-53 provides funding for the approved reclassification of one Public Health Educator III position to a Comprehensive Health Planner II position, retroactive to February 11, 2025, and provides funding for related All Other costs. This initiative also provides funding for a one-time retroactive payment. This initiative provides funding for the employee-initiated reclassification of one Public Health Educator III position to a Comprehensive Health Planner II position retroactive to February 11, 2025, and approved by the Bureau of Human Resources on June 9, 2025. This initiative includes ongoing funding for the reclassification. This initiative increases Fund for a Healthy Maine Personal Services allocation by \$11,418 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$4,925 in state fiscal year 2027 and All Other allocation by \$357 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$154 in state fiscal year 2027.

2. The next initiative (F-A-1128) on page A-53 establishes one Health Program Manager position in the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention program to oversee investigations, outbreaks, surveillance, and disease prevention for sexually transmitted infections and human immunodeficiency virus. This initiative provides General Fund of \$63,510 and increases Federal Expenditures Fund allocation by \$65,488 in state fiscal year 2027.

2. The next initiative (F-A-1128) on page A-53 establishes one Health Program Manager position funded 50% General Fund and 50% Federal Expenditures Fund in the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention program to oversee investigations, outbreaks, surveillance, and disease prevention for sexually transmitted infections and human immunodeficiency virus and provides funding for related All Other costs. This Health Program Manager position will be responsible for ensuring sufficient staff capacity to meet the priorities of sexually transmitted infections (STI) and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) surveillance, prevention, investigations, and outbreaks. Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention currently has a team of 5.5 positions (staff and contractors) assigned to investigate STI/HIV cases and outbreaks throughout the state. This staffing will be reduced to 2 staff in March 2026, as a result of permanently reduced federal grant funding. This position will investigate STI and HIV to reduce the spread and transmission of a communicable disease, link individuals to testing and treatment options, supervise a Public Health Educator III position, manage the STI grant and oversee HIV Prep, a preventive medication for individuals at high risk of HIV. This initiative provides General Fund Personal Services funding of \$59,882 and All Other funding of \$3,628 and increases Federal Expenditures Fund Personal Services allocation by \$59,875 and All Other allocation by \$5,613 in state fiscal year 2027.

3. The next initiative (F-A-1130) on page A-53 provides funding to increase the hours of one part-time Chemist II position in the Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory seized drug section from 32 to 80 hours biweekly and transfers All Other to Personal Services to cover the cost of the increase.

3. *The next initiative (F-A-1130) on page A-53 provides funding to increase the hours of one part-time Chemist II position in the Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory seized drug section from 32 to 80 hours biweekly funded 62% General Fund and 38% Other Special Revenue Funds in the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention program and transfers All Other to Personal Services to cover the cost of the increase. The seized drug team within the Forensics Unit at the Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory (HETL) is currently experiencing a backlog of 226 cases for testing. With the existing state and contracted resources, the team can only process an average of 20 new cases and 55 activated cases per month. At this rate, it will take the team a minimum of 4 months to be current with testing and to eliminate the backlog; this assuming no new cases are received, and no other cases are activated. Additional resources are required now to help with the ever-increasing case workload. Utilizing an existing part-time position, of which HETL has been unable to fill due to being a part-time position within the seized drug team, provides HETL with the necessary additional resources, while fully maximizing an existing position. This initiative provides General Fund Personal Services funding of \$41,995 and reduces All Other funding by the same amount and increases Other Special Revenue Funds Personal Services allocation by \$25,738 and reduces All Other allocation by the same amount in state fiscal year 2027.*

4. The next initiative (F-A-1129) on page A-53 establishes one Public Health Educator III position funded 100% Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention program, General Fund to support disease prevention and surveillance for sexually transmitted infections, including congenital syphilis and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). This initiative provides General Fund of \$110,871.

3. *The next initiative (F-A-1129) on page A-53 establishes one Public Health Educator III position funded 100% Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention program, General Fund to support disease prevention and surveillance for sexually transmitted infections, including congenital syphilis and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and provides funding for related All Other costs. The Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention currently as a team of 5.5 positions (staff and contractors) assigned to investigate sexually transmitted infections (STI) and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) cases and outbreaks throughout the state. This staffing will be reduced to 2 staff in March 2026, as a result of permanently reduced federal grant funding. The Public Health Educator III position will investigate STI and HIV cases, including congenital syphilis, to reduce the spread and transmission of the communicable diseases and provide education on HIV Prep, a preventive medication for individuals at high risk of HIV. This initiative provides General Fund Personal Services funding of \$103,615 and All Other funding of \$7,256 in state fiscal year 2027.*

Universal Childhood Immunization Program

The next program on page A-76 is **Universal Childhood Immunization Program – Z121**. The This program has one initiative.

1. This initiative (F-A-1131) on page A-76 increases allotment in the Universal Immunization Program, Other Special Revenue Funds to align with available resources. This increase in allotment fulfills the obligations as outlined in Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22, section 1066, Universal Immunization Program to purchase vaccine with collected assessments from State of Maine health insurance organizations and without the use of General Fund. The annual budget for this fund is estimated to increase from \$25M due to the expansion of the program from children to adults 19 to 64 years old pursuant to PL 2025, Ch. 440. This \$10M supplemental allocation will be utilized for immediate procurement of 6 months routine vaccine inventory and the 2026-27 seasonal respiratory vaccine inventory for Maine adults, in addition to staffing and operational costs to support this expansion. This initiative increases Other Special Revenue Funds allocation by \$10,000,000 in state fiscal year 2027.

1. This initiative (F-A-1131) on page A-76 provides funding in the Universal Immunization Program, Other Special Revenue Funds to align with available resources. This increase in allotment fulfills the obligations as outlined in Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22, section 1066, Universal Immunization Program to purchase vaccine with collected assessments from State of Maine health insurance organizations and without the use of General Fund. To date, this fund has been utilized to procure vaccines for Maine insured children ages birth through 18 years old. Effective July 1, 2026, this fund will expand to include vaccine purchases for all Maine insured adults 19-64 years of age, and operational costs to support the Maine Immunization Program. The annual budget for this fund is estimated to increase from \$25M. This \$10M supplemental allocation will be utilized for immediate procurement of 6 months routine vaccine inventory and the 2026-27 seasonal respiratory vaccine inventory for Maine adults, in addition to staffing and operational costs to support this expansion. This initiative increases Other Special Revenue Funds All Other allocation by \$10,000,000 in state fiscal year 2027.

Food Supplement Administration

The next program on page A-50 is **Food Supplement Administration – Z019**. This program has 2 initiatives.

1. The first initiative (F-A-1857) on page A-50 provides funding for heating assistance benefits for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program participants to improve the payment error rate. Rather than authorizing the Maine State Housing Authority transfer in Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22, § 3769-E, this initiative proposes to provide the following:

1. All SNAP households with children under age 18 (roughly 25,000) would receive a heating benefit of \$20.01 (\$500,000 total) at certification or recertification.
2. The Department would issue a \$20.01 heating benefit to all Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program households without a child under age 18 (roughly 72,000 households for a total benefit of \$1,440,720). Implementing this proposal would make all SNAP households with a member over 60 with a disabling condition eligible for the full standard utility allowance (FSUA), increasing their monthly benefit if they were not receiving the full SUA, eliminating roughly 15% of Maine's payment error rate, lowering

the risk of Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) financial penalties, and potentially benefiting Maine's cost sharing.

This initiative provides General Fund of \$1,486,103 in state fiscal year 2027.

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2. The Department would issue a \$20.01 heating benefit to all Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) households without a child under age 18 (roughly 72,000 households for a total benefit of \$1,440,720). Implementing this proposal would make all SNAP households with a member over 60 with a disabling condition eligible for the full standard utility allowance (FSUA), eliminating roughly 15% of our payment error rate (PER) and may eliminate risk of Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) financial penalties and benefit cost sharing.

This initiative provides General Fund All Other funding of \$1,486,103 in state fiscal year 2027.

2. The next initiative (F-A-1835) on page A-50 adjusts funding between General Fund and Other Special Revenue Funds in both the Office for Family Independence program and Office for Family Independence - District program and between General Fund and Federal Expenditures Fund in the Food Supplement Admin program as a result of the decrease in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance program Federal Financial Participation rate from 50% to 25% as of October 1, 2026 pursuant to P.L. 119-21 (H.R.1). This initiative provides General Fund of \$187,853 and reduces Federal Expenditures Fund allocation by \$193,651 in state fiscal year 2027. This initiative can also be found on pages A-62 and A-65.

2. The next initiative (F-A-1835) on page A-50 adjusts funding between General Fund and Other Special Revenue Funds in both the Office for Family Independence program and Office for Family Independence - District program and between General Fund and Federal Expenditures Fund in the Food Supplement Admin program as a result of the decrease in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance program Federal Financial Participation rate from 50% to 25% as of October 1, 2026 pursuant to The July 2025 Federal Budget Reconciliation law, P.L. 119-21 (H.R. 1). Pursuant to this law, P.L. 119-21, section 1016, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Federal Financial Participation rate for administrative costs changes from 50% to 25% as of October 1, 2026. This initiative provides General Fund All Other funding of \$187,853 and reduces Federal Expenditures Fund All Other allocation by \$193,651 in state fiscal year 2027. This initiative can also be found on pages A-62 and A-65.

Office for Family Independence

The next program on page A-62 is **Office for Family Independence – Z020**. This program has 5 initiatives.

1. The first initiative (F-A-1834) on page A-62 reallocates positions within the Office for Family Independence and Office for Family Independence - District programs as a result of the decrease in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Federal Financial Participation rate for administrative costs from 50% to 25% as of October 1, 2026, pursuant to the July 2025 Federal Budget Reconciliation law, P.L. 119-21 (H.R. 1). This initiative provides General Fund of \$544,946 and reduces Other Special Revenue Funds allocation by \$529,111 in state fiscal year 2027. This initiative can also be found on page A-64. There are no new positions associated with this initiative.

1. The first initiative (F-A-1834) on page A-62 reallocates positions within the Office for Family Independence and Office for Family Independence - District programs as a result of the decrease in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Federal Financial Participation rate from 50% to 25% as of October 1, 2026 pursuant to The July 2025 Federal Budget Reconciliation law, P.L. 119-21 (H.R. 1). Pursuant to this law, P.L. 119-21, section 1016, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Federal Financial Participation rate for administrative costs changes from 50% to 25% as of October 1, 2026. This initiative provides General Fund Personal Services funding of \$544,946 and reduces Other Special Revenue Funds Personal Services allocation by \$513,072 and All Other allocation by \$16,039 in state fiscal year 2027. This initiative can also be found on page A-64.

2. The next initiative (F-A-1837) on page A-62 establishes 35 Eligibility Specialist I positions, 4 Family Independence Unit Supervisor positions, one Program Administrator - Family Independence position, one Management Analyst II position, one Senior Planner position, 3 Eligibility Specialist II positions and one Business Systems Administrator position to implement MaineCare work or community engagement requirements pursuant to P.L. 119-21 (H.R.1). This initiative provides General Fund of \$14,115 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$166,757 in state fiscal year 2027 and increases Other Special Revenue Funds allocation by \$43,674 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$515,954 in state fiscal year 2027. This initiative can also be found on page A-64.

2. The next initiative (F-A-1837) on page A-62 establishes 35 Eligibility Specialist I positions, 4 Family Independence Unit Supervisor positions and one Program Administrator - Family Independence position within the Office for Family Independence - District program and establishes one Management Analyst II position, one Senior Planner position, 3 Eligibility Specialist II positions and one Business Systems Administrator position within the Office for Family Independence program funded 25% General Fund and 75% Other Special Revenue Funds to implement MaineCare work/community engagement requirements pursuant to The July 2025 Federal Budget Reconciliation law, P.L. 119-21 (H.R. 1). This initiative also provides funding for related All Other costs. OFI is planning to implement three interrelated MaineCare requirements as a single initiative due to their shared timelines, costs, and impacts: community engagement/work requirements (impacting nearly 100,000 members), changes to renewal

periods (annual to six months), and changes to retroactive eligibility. These changes are the most significant changes to the MaineCare program since the Affordable Care Act and are expected to bring significant processing and technology challenges that must be overcome in order to minimize disenrollments of MaineCare members which will have ripple effects throughout the healthcare system. Approximately 34,000 members could be disenrolled from the program, and 28,500 cases could result in manual work verifications and increased manual renewals. Existing staff are not able to meet this increased demand, nor to implement new technology requirements that must be in place by Fall 2026 to allow staff training and ensure January 2027 renewals follow the new processes. Staffing to manage work/community engagement requirements should be in place by April 1, 2026, with additional processing staff effective July 1, 2026. The initiative's staffing needs include 1 Business Systems Administrator and 3 User Acceptance Testers (ESII) for technology; 1 Management Analyst II and 1 Senior Planner/Program Manager for policy; and 1 Program Administrator, 3 FI Supervisors, and 35 Eligibility Specialists I for operations. This initiative provides General Fund Personal Services funding of \$13,207 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$155,873 in state fiscal year 2027 and All Other funding of \$908 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$10,884 in state fiscal year 2027 and increases Other Special Revenue Funds Personal Services allocation by \$39,628 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$467,662 in state fiscal year 2027 and All Other allocation by \$4,046 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$48,292 in state fiscal year 2027. This initiative can also be found on page A-64.

3. The next initiative (F-A-1835) on page A-62 adjusts funding between General Fund and Other Special Revenue Funds in both the Office for Family Independence program and Office for Family Independence - District program and between General Fund and Federal Expenditures Fund in the Food Supplement Admin program as a result of the decrease in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance program Federal Financial Participation rate from 50% to 25% as of October 1, 2026 pursuant to P.L. 119-21 (H.R.1). This initiative provides General Fund of \$884,150 and reduces Other Special Revenue Funds allocation by \$911,789 in state fiscal year 2027. This initiative can also be found on pages A-50 and A-65.

3. The next initiative (F-A-1835) on page A-62 adjusts funding between General Fund and Other Special Revenue Funds in both the Office for Family Independence program and Office for Family Independence - District program and between General Fund and Federal Expenditures Fund in the Food Supplement Admin program as a result of the decrease in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance program Federal Financial Participation rate from 50% to 25% as of October 1, 2026 pursuant to The July 2025 Federal Budget Reconciliation law, P.L. 119-21 (H.R. 1). Pursuant to this law, P.L. 119-21, section 1016, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Federal Financial Participation rate for administrative costs changes from 50% to 25% as of October 1, 2026. This initiative provides General Fund All Other funding of \$884,150 and reduces Other Special Revenue Funds All Other allocation by \$911,789 in state fiscal year 2027. This initiative can also be found on pages A-50 and A-65.

4. The next initiative (F-A-1840) on page A-62 provides funding in the Office for Family Independence program for the projected increase in income verification services pursuant to P.L.

119-21 (H.R.1). Under the new provisions, the Office for Family Independence will be required to verify earnings at additional points in the eligibility cycle, respond to new federal match data, and process more frequent changes reported by clients. This initiative provides General Fund of \$249,051 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$901,314 in state fiscal year 2027 and increases Other Special Revenue Funds allocation by \$256,835 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$1,884,403 in state fiscal year 2027.

4. The next initiative (F-A-1840) on page A-62 provides funding in the Office for Family Independence program for the projected increase in income verification services pursuant to The July 2025 Federal Budget Reconciliation law, P.L. 119-21 (H.R. 1). The implementation of this law, P.L. 119-21's new work and eligibility requirements will significantly expand the volume, frequency, and complexity of income verifications required for compliance. Under the new provisions, the Office for Family Independence will be required to verify earnings at additional points in the eligibility cycle, respond to new federal match data, and process more frequent changes reported by clients. This initiative provides General Fund All Other funding of \$249,051 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$901,314 in state fiscal year 2027 and increases Other Special Revenue Funds All Other allocation by \$256,835 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$1,884,403 in state fiscal year 2027.

5. The first initiative (F-A-7216) on page T-3 Provides one-time funding for technology adjustments and compliance with new requirements pursuant to the July 2025 Federal Budget Reconciliation law P.L. 119-21 (H.R. 1).. A variety of H.R.1 provisions require system changes and upgrades and investment in consulting services to provide technical and operation capacity. This initiative increases Other Special Revenue Funds All Other allocation of \$569,665 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$13,474,380 in state fiscal year 2027.

5. The first initiative (F-A-7216) on page T-3 Provides one-time funding for one-time technology adjustments and compliance with new requirements pursuant to the July 2025 Federal Budget Reconciliation law, P.L. 119-21 (H.R. 1).. Work or community engagement requirements, changes to frequency of redetermination, length of retroactive coverage, and elimination of coverage for certain non-citizen groups will all create a need for effective and multiple forms of member outreach and communication in order to minimize unnecessary disenrollments. System changes included in the outreach are incorporating e-noticing from its claims system into My Maine Connection. In addition to enabling a single source of MaineCare-related communications for members, this will also enable communication regarding copay cost sharing limits, as required per federal law, and communications to members regarding exclusion criteria they meet for community engagement requirements under H.R.1. The other system upgrade will grant providers easy access to member renewal dates in MaineCare's HealthPAS portal augmenting the Department's ability to meet the renewal frequency changes under H.R.1. Costs also include outreach contracts, marketing campaign and materials. . This initiative increases Other Special Revenue Funds All Other allocation of \$569,665 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$13,474,380 in state fiscal year 2027.

Office for Family Independence – District

The next program on page A-64 is **Office for Family Independence – District – 0453**. This program has 5 initiatives.

1. The first initiative (F-A-1836) on page A-64 establishes 40 Eligibility Specialist II positions and 4 Family Independence Unit Supervisor positions in the Office for Family Independence - District program to improve the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Payment Error Rate, pursuant to P.L. 119-21 (H.R.1). Due to P.L. 119-21, the Office for Family Independence must reduce its SNAP Payment Error Rate to below 6% as quickly as possible. Maine's FFY24 Payment Error Rate was 10.26% (national average: 10.93%), and the current FFY25 Payment Error Rate year-to-date is 9.58%. Rapidly reducing the SNAP Payment Error Rate to below 6% will require substantial technology investments as well as hiring and training more Eligibility Specialists to be able to provide more timely agency actions and make it easier for clients to be able to report changes. This initiative provides General Fund of \$2,068,988 and increases Other Special Revenue Funds allocation by \$2,657,025 in state fiscal year 2027.

1. The first initiative (F-A-1836) on page A-64 establishes 40 Eligibility Specialist II positions and 4 Family Independence Unit Supervisor positions in the Office for Family Independence - District program, funded 44.8% General Fund and 55.2% Other Special Revenue Funds to improve the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Payment Error Rate (PER), pursuant to The July 2025 Federal Budget Reconciliation law P.L. 119-21(H.R. 1). This initiative also provides funding for related All Other costs. Due to P.L. 119-21, the Office for Family Independence (OFI) must reduce its SNAP Payment Error Rate (PER) to below 6% as quickly as possible, with the final opportunity to avoid federal cost sharing in FFY26 (October 1, 2025-September 30, 2026). Maine's FFY24 PER was 10.26% (national average: 10.93%), and the current FFY25 PER year-to-date is 9.58%. At current benefit issuance levels of \$356 million annually, cost sharing beginning October 1, 2027 (FFY28) could range from \$0 if the PER is under 6%, to as much as \$53.4 million if the PER remains above 10%. Without significant investment and priority in mitigation efforts, Maine can expect to remain above 8% which would result in \$35.6 million in cost sharing. Rapidly reducing the SNAP PER to below 6% will require substantial technology investments that are not feasible through simple reprioritization as well as hiring and training more Eligibility Specialists to be able to provide more timely agency actions and make it easier for clients to be able to report changes. Increasing Maine's ES staffing by 40 positions would help reduce the caseload per worker, align more closely with staffing ratios in states with lower PERs, and support efforts to improve processing timeliness and payment accuracy. Adding these lines will cost an additional \$1,996,582 in state funds for SFY27 due to changes in SNAP administrative cost sharing. In addition to the 35.6 million savings in benefit cost sharing these staff would lessen the administrative burden on applicants and recipients, improve our application and recertification timeliness and reduce wait time for our telephonic and in-person interactions. This initiative provides General Fund Personal Services funding of \$1,931,482 and All Other funding of \$137,506 and increases Other Special Revenue Funds

Personal Services allocation by \$2,394,726 and All Other allocation by \$262,299 in state fiscal year 2027.

2. The next initiative (F-A-1834) on page A-64 reallocates positions within the Office for Family Independence and Office for Family Independence - District programs as a result of the decrease in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Federal Financial Participation rate for administrative costs from 50% to 25% as of October 1, 2026, pursuant to P.L. 119-21 (H.R.1), This initiative provides General Fund of \$2,552,613 and reduces Other Special Revenue Funds allocation by \$2,632,413 in state fiscal year 2027. This initiative can also be found on page A-62. There are no new positions associated with this initiative.

2. The next initiative (F-A-1834) on page A-64 reallocates positions within the Office for Family Independence and Office for Family Independence - District programs as a result of the decrease in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Federal Financial Participation rate from 50% to 25% as of October 1, 2026 pursuant to The July 2025 Federal Budget Reconciliation law, P.L. 119-21 (H.R. 1). Pursuant to this law, PL 119-21, section 1016, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Federal Financial Participation rate for administrative costs changes from 50% to 25% as of October 1, 2026. This initiative provides General Fund Personal Services funding of \$2,552,613 and reduces Other Special Revenue Funds Personal Services allocation by \$2,552,618 and All Other allocation by \$79,795 in state fiscal year 2027. This initiative can also be found on page A-62.

3. The next initiative (F-A-1837) on page A-64 establishes 35 Eligibility Specialist I positions, 4 Family Independence Unit Supervisor positions, one Program Administrator - Family Independence position, one Management Analyst II position, one Senior Planner position, 3 Eligibility Specialist II positions and one Business Systems Administrator position to implement MaineCare work or community engagement requirements pursuant to P.L. 119-21 (H.R.1). This initiative provides General Fund of \$36,530 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$996,307 in state fiscal year 2027 and increases Other Special Revenue Funds allocation by \$113,018 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$3,082,656 in state fiscal year 2027. This initiative can also be found on page A-62.

3. The next initiative (F-A-1837) on page A-64 establishes 35 Eligibility Specialist I positions, 4 Family Independence Unit Supervisor positions and one Program Administrator - Family Independence position within the Office for Family Independence - District program and establishes one Management Analyst II position, one Senior Planner position, 3 Eligibility Specialist II positions and one Business Systems Administrator position within the Office for Family Independence program funded 25% General Fund and 75% Other Special Revenue Funds to implement MaineCare work/community engagement requirements pursuant to The July 2025 Federal Budget Reconciliation law, P.L. 119-21 (H.R. 1). This initiative also provides funding for related All Other costs. OFI is planning to implement three interrelated MaineCare requirements as a single initiative due to their shared timelines, costs, and impacts: community engagement/work requirements (impacting nearly 100,000 members), changes to renewal periods (annual to six months), and changes to retroactive eligibility. These changes are the most

significant changes to the MaineCare program since the Affordable Care Act and are expected to bring significant processing and technology challenges that must be overcome in order to minimize disenrollments of MaineCare members which will have ripple effects throughout the healthcare system. Approximately 34,000 members could be disenrolled from the program, and 28,500 cases could result in manual work verifications and increased manual renewals. Existing staff are not able to meet this increased demand, nor to implement new technology requirements that must be in place by Fall 2026 to allow staff training and ensure January 2027 renewals follow the new processes. Staffing to manage work/community engagement requirements should be in place by April 1, 2026, with additional processing staff effective July 1, 2026. The initiative's staffing needs include 1 Business Systems Administrator and 3 User Acceptance Testers (ESII) for technology; 1 Management Analyst II and 1 Senior Planner/Program Manager for policy; and 1 Program Administrator, 3 FI Supervisors, and 35 Eligibility Specialists I for operations. This initiative provides General Fund Personal Services funding of \$34,261 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$923,747 in state fiscal year 2027 and All Other funding of \$2,269 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$72,560 in state fiscal year 2027 and increases Other Special Revenue Funds Personal Services allocation by \$102,789 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$2,771,533 in state fiscal year 2027 and All Other allocation by \$10,229 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$311,123 in state fiscal year 2027. This initiative can also be found on page A-62.

4. The next initiative (F-A-1839) on page A-64 provides funding in the Office for Family Independence - District program for the projected increase in postage pursuant to P.L. 119-21 (H.R.1). Implementation of H.R.1 will significantly increase the volume of mailed notices to clients due to new eligibility, verification, and work or community engagement requirement provisions. The increased cost will be driven by both postage and printing, as many notices require multiple pages and/or enclosures. This initiative provides General Fund of \$15,625 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$148,640 in state fiscal year 2027 and increases Other Special Revenue Funds allocation by \$16,113 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$394,570 in state fiscal year 2027.

4. The next initiative (F-A-1839) on page A-64 provides funding in the Office for Family Independence - District program for the projected increase in postage pursuant to The July 2025 Federal Budget Reconciliation law, P.L. 119-21 (H.R. 1). Implementation of this law, PL 119-21 will significantly increase the volume of mailed notices to clients due to new eligibility, verification, and work/community engagement requirement provisions. Federal regulations and state policy require that clients receive written notification for a variety of actions, including: 1.) Initial notices of new requirements. 2.) Requests for additional verification or documentation. 3.) Adverse action notices when benefits are reduced or terminated. 4.) Ongoing compliance reminders and recertification packets. The increased cost will be driven by both postage and printing, as many notices require multiple pages and/or enclosures. This initiative provides General Fund All Other funding of \$15,625 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$148,640 in state fiscal year 2027 and increases Other Special Revenue Funds All Other allocation by \$16,113 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$394,570 in state fiscal year 2027.

5. The next initiative (F-A-1835) on page A-65 adjusts funding between General Fund and Other Special Revenue Funds in both the Office for Family Independence program and Office for Family Independence - District program and between General Fund and Federal Expenditures Fund in the Food Supplement Admin program as a result of the decrease in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance program Federal Financial Participation rate from 50% to 25% as of October 1, 2026 pursuant to P.L. 119-21 (H.R.1). This initiative provides General Fund of \$417,518 and reduces Other Special Revenue Funds allocation by \$430,570 in state fiscal year 2027. This initiative can also be found on pages A-50 and A-62.

5. The next initiative (F-A-1835) on page A-65 adjusts funding between General Fund and Other Special Revenue Funds in both the Office for Family Independence program and Office for Family Independence - District program and between General Fund and Federal Expenditures Fund in the Food Supplement Admin program as a result of the decrease in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance program Federal Financial Participation rate from 50% to 25% as of October 1, 2026 pursuant to The July 2025 Federal Budget Reconciliation law, P.L. 119-21 (H.R. 1). Pursuant to this law, P.L. 119-21, section 1016, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Federal Financial Participation rate for administrative costs changes from 50% to 25% as of October 1, 2026. This initiative provides General Fund All Other funding of \$417,518 and reduces Other Special Revenue Funds All Other allocation by \$430,570 in state fiscal year 2027. This initiative can also be found on pages A-50 and A-62.

Long Term Care – Office of Aging and Disability Services

The next program on page A-51 is **Long Term Care – Office of Aging and Disability Services – 0420**. This program has one initiative.

1. This initiative (F-A-1618) on page A-51 provides funding for a cost-of-living increase for state-funded home and community-based services related to the department's rule Chapter 5, Office of Aging and Disability Services Policy Manual, Sections 61, 63, 68 and 69 to maintain parity with similar MaineCare programs. MaineCare-funded home and community-based services received a 1.95% cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for its service rates, which was implemented on July 1, 2025. A second COLA of an additional 1% is scheduled for MaineCare home and community-based programs on January 1, 2026. Public Law 2025, chapter 388, appropriated \$300,000 towards COLAs for these services and this budget initiative provides additional funding to fully fund both COLAs, beyond the initial \$300,000 received. This initiative provides General Fund of \$941,453 in state fiscal year 2027.

1. This initiative (F-A-1618) on page A-51 provides funding for a cost-of-living increase for state-funded home and community-based services related to the department's rule Chapter 5, Office of Aging and Disability Services Policy Manual, Sections 61, 63, 68 and 69 to maintain parity with similar MaineCare programs. MaineCare-funded home and community-based services received a 1.95% cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for its service rates, which was implemented on July 1, 2025. A second COLA of an additional 1% is scheduled for MaineCare

home and community-based programs on January 1, 2026. Public Law 2025, chapter 388, appropriated \$300,000 towards COLAs for these services and this budget initiative provides additional funding to fully fund both COLAs, beyond the initial \$300,000 received. This initiative provides General Fund All Other funding of \$941,453 in state fiscal year 2027.

Low-Cost Drugs to Maine's Elderly

The next program on page A-52 is **Low-Cost Drugs to Maine's Elderly – 0202**. This program has one initiative.

1. This initiative (F-A-2150) on page A-52 provides funding for the annual Medicare Part D rate increase. Medicare rates change annually and funding is needed to reflect a significant Part D increase for Calendar Year 2026. This initiative provides General Fund of \$74,959 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$201,749 in state fiscal year 2027. This initiative can also be found on page A-57.

1. This initiative (F-A-2150) on page A-52 provides funding for the annual Medicare Part D rate increase. Medicare rates change annually and funding is needed to reflect a significant Part D increase for Calendar Year 2026. This initiative provides General Fund All Other funding of \$74,959 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$201,749 in state fiscal year 2027. This initiative can also be found on page A-57.

Afternoon Testimony:

Senator Rotundo, Representative Gattine, Senator Ingwersen, Representative Meyer, Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services; my name is Todd Haber, Acting Deputy Commissioner of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). I am here today to speak in support of LD 2212.

As I shared with you this morning, the Maine Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is dedicated to promoting health, safety, resilience, and opportunity for Maine people. The Department provides health and social services to almost a third of the State's population, including children, families, older Mainers, and individuals with disabilities, mental illness, and substance use disorders. The leadership of the Department understands the importance of these services to the health and wellbeing of not only the Maine people accessing these services but their families as well.

The Administration looks forward to working with the Legislature in the coming weeks to enact a balanced budget that supports Maine people and protects the fiscal health of our state. I will now continue speaking more specifically to the contents contained in the Governor's Supplemental Budget

Department of Health and Human Services Central Operations

The next program on page A-46 is **Department of Health and Human Services Central Operations - 0142**. This program has 2 initiatives.

1. The first initiative (F-A-2023) on page A-46 reduces funding for the approved reorganization of one Public Service Manager III position to a Public Service Coordinate I position and transfers and reallocates the position from 60% General Fund and 40% Other Special Revenue Funds in the Department of Health and Human Services Central Operations program to 50% General Fund and 50% Federal Expenditures Fund in the Office of MaineCare Services program to replace work currently being done by a contracted employee. This initiative reduces General Fund by \$21,600 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$106,007 in state fiscal year 2027 and reduces Other Special Revenue Funds allocation by \$14,851 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$72,879 in state fiscal year 2027. This initiative can also be found on page A-72. There are no new positions associated with this initiative.

1. The first initiative (F-A-2023) on page A-46 reduces funding for the approved reorganization of one Public Service Manager III position to a Public Service Coordinate I position and transfers and reallocates the cost of the position from 60% General Fund and 40% Other Special Revenue Funds in the Department of Health and Human Services Central Operations program to 50% General Fund and 50% Federal Expenditures Fund in the Office of MaineCare Services

program and adjusts funding for related All Other costs. This position is budgeted in the DHHS Commissioner's Office but has been vacant since it was created in fiscal year 2021-22.

Following the transfer, the position will move into the Office of MaineCare Services (OMS) to replace work currently being done by a contracted employee. The Office of MaineCare Services has developed a robust Health Information Technology coordination scope of work that would benefit from the stability of a state line rather than a contracted position and that could take on some of the Department-wide work originally envisioned for the DHHS position. After hiring into this position, OMS will then end the contracted position, which will save administrative costs. In addition, an FJA has been approved to downgrade this position from a Public Service Manager III, range 35, to a Public Service Coordinator I, range 28, which generates additional savings. This initiative reduces General Fund Personal Services funding by \$20,512 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$101,653 in state fiscal year 2027 and All Other funding by \$1,088 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$4,354 in state fiscal year 2027 and reduces Other Special Revenue Funds Personal Services allocation by \$13,675 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$67,768 in state fiscal year 2027 and All Other allocation by \$1,176 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$5,111 in state fiscal year 2027. This initiative can also be found on page A-72.

2. The second initiative (F-A-1219) on page A-46 reallocates the cost of one Social Services Manager I position from 100% General Fund to 60% General Fund and 40% Other Special Revenue Funds within the same program to align with the cost allocation split in the Department of Health and Human Services Central Operations program. This initiative reduces General Fund by \$10,708 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$52,035 in state fiscal year 2027 and increases Other Special Revenue Funds allocation by \$11,043 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$53,662 in state fiscal year 2027. There are no new positions associated with this initiative.

2. The second initiative (F-A-1219) on page A-46 reallocates the cost of one Social Services Manager I position from 100% General Fund to 60% General Fund and 40% Other Special Revenue Funds within the same program and adjusts funding for related All Other costs. Reallocates the cost of one Social Services Manager I position from 100% General Fund to 60% General Fund and 40% Other Special Revenue Funds within the same program to align with the cost allocation split in the Department of Health and Human Services Central Operations program. This initiative reduces General Fund Personal Services funding by \$9,982 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$49,133 in state fiscal year 2027 and All Other funding by \$726 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$2,902 in state fiscal year 2027 and increases Other Special Revenue Funds Personal Services allocation by \$9,982 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$49,133 in state fiscal year 2027 and All Other allocation by \$1,061 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$4,529 in state fiscal year 2027.

Early Childhood Consultation Program

The next program on page A-49 is **Early Childhood Consultation Program – Z280**. This program has 2 initiatives.

1. The first initiative (F-A-1742) on page A-49 transfers and reallocates one Agency Procurement & Program Administrator position from the Early Childhood Consultation Program to the Office of Child and Family Services - Central program to allow the position to be properly allocated to the correct funding. This initiative reduces General Fund by \$32,120 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$151,223 in state fiscal year 2027. This initiative can also be found on page A-69. There are no new positions associated with this initiative.

1. The first initiative (F-A-1742) on page A-49 transfers and reallocates one Agency Procurement & Program Administrator position from the Early Childhood Consultation Program, General Fund to 72% General Fund and 28% Other Special Revenue Funds in the Office of Child and Family Services - Central program and adjusts funding for related All Other costs. The Agency Procurement & Program Administrator position is part of the Child Welfare Program within the Office of Child and Family Services (OCFS), which is the primary point of contact for the OCFS business service team for request for proposal development, contract addendums, amendments, renewals, and new contracts as well as managing federal grants. Currently, this position is charged directly to the Early Childhood Consultation Program which creates a cost allocation issue when they work on different programs not supported by the Early Childhood Consultation Program. To resolve this issue, OCFS requests this position be assigned to the General Fund and Other Special Revenue Funds. This will allow the position to be properly allocated to the correct funding. This initiative reduces General Fund Personal Services funding by \$30,166 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$143,967 in state fiscal year 2027 and All Other funding by \$1,954 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$7,256 in state fiscal year 2027. This initiative can also be found on page A-69.

2. The next initiative (F-A-1743) on page A-49 transfers and reallocates one Social Services Program Specialist II position from the Office of Child and Family Services - Central program to the Early Childhood Consultation Program to allow the position to be properly allocated to the correct funding source. This initiative provides General Fund of \$12,749 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$60,315 in state fiscal year 2027 and increases Federal Block Grant Fund allocation by \$13,303 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$62,943 in state fiscal year 2027. This initiative can also be found on page A-69. There are no new positions associated with this initiative.

2. The next initiative (F-A-1743) on page A-49 transfers and reallocates one Social Services Program Specialist II position from 72% General Fund and 28% Other Special Revenue Funds in the Office of Child and Family Services - Central program to 50% General Fund and 50% Federal Block Grant Fund in the Early Childhood Consultation Program and adjusts funding for related All Other costs. The Social Service Program Specialist II position is part of the Early Childhood Consultation Program within the Office of Child and Family Services (OCFS), which provides strategies and training to improve the capacity of early childhood educators as they work with social emotional needs of children. The program also incorporates consultation for families (including resource families) of children referred for support through the child's early childhood education setting. Currently, this position is charged directly to the Office of Child and Family Services - Central program, General Fund and Other Special Revenue Funds which

creates a cost allocation issue when they work on the Early Childhood Consultation Program. To resolve this issue, OCFS requests this position be assigned to the Early Childhood Consultation Program and allocated to General Fund and Federal Block Grant Fund. This will allow the position to be properly allocated to the correct Federal or State fund source. This initiative provides General Fund Personal Services funding of \$11,841 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$56,687 in state fiscal year 2027 and All Other funding of \$908 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$3,628 in state fiscal year 2027 and increases Federal Block Grant Fund Personal Services allocation by \$11,839 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$56,684 in state fiscal year 2027 and All Other allocation by \$1,464 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$6,259 in state fiscal year 2027. This initiative can also be found on page A-69.

IV-E Foster Care/Adoption Assistance

The next program on page A-51 is **IV-E Foster Care/Adoption Assistance - 0137**. This program has one initiative.

1. This initiative (F-A-7748) on page A-51 establishes 2 Management Analyst II positions in the Office of Child and Family Services - Central program and provides funding to offset the use of federal benefits to pay for or reimburse the Department for any costs of the child's care and would require the Department to establish a special-needs trust to conserve the child's benefit for their use. This initiative provides General Fund of \$1,479,064 and increases Federal Expenditures Fund allocation by \$1,481,409 in state fiscal year 2027. This initiative can also be found on pages A-68 and A-76.

1. This initiative (F-A-7748) on page A-51 establishes 2 Management Analyst II positions funded 72% General Fund and 28% Other Special Revenue Funds in the Office of Child and Family Services - Central program and provides funding for related All Other costs. This initiative also provides funding to support the requirements related to offsetting the reimbursement of Federal income benefits to pay for a child's care. This initiative establishes 2 Management Analyst II positions and provides funding to offset the use of federal benefits to pay for or reimburse the Department for any costs of the child's care and would require the Department to establish a special-needs trust to use and conserve the child's benefit. The positions would provide report creation and dissemination for annual accounting to the child, the child's attorney, or their guardian. This initiative would also provide funding for necessary training to children receiving federal benefits, department staff, and representative payees who receive the federal benefit on behalf of the child. This initiative provides General Fund All Other funding of \$1,479,064 and increases Federal Expenditures Fund All Other allocation by \$1,481,409 in state fiscal year 2027. This initiative can also be found on pages A-68 and A-76.

Mental Health Services - Children

The next program on page A-59 is **Mental Health Services – Children – Z206**. This program has 5 initiatives.

1. The first initiative (F-A-1738) on page A-59 provides funding for the approved reorganization of one Nurse III position to a Child Protective Services Nurse Consultant and moves the position from the Bureau of Behavioral Health to the Office of Child and Family Services to assist child welfare staff with the increased reporting, tracking and oversight requirements of psychotropic medication use to comply with the psychotropic medication settlement agreement. This FJA was approved by Bureau of Human Resources on June 24, 2025. This initiative reduces General Fund by \$26,764 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$125,936 in state fiscal year 2027. This initiative can also be found on page A-68. There are no new positions associated with this initiative.

1. The first (F-A-1738) on page A-59 provides funding for the approved reorganization of one Nurse III position to a Child Protective Services Nurse Consultant and transfers and reallocates the position from 100% Mental Health Services - Children, General Fund to 72% General Fund and 28% Other Special Revenue Funds in the Office of Child and Family Services - Central program. This initiative also provides funding for related All Other costs. This initiative provides funding for the approved reorganization of a Nurse III to a Child Protective Services Nurse Consultant position, approved by Bureau of Human Resources on June 24, 2025, and moves the position from the Bureau of Behavioral Health to the Office of Child and Family Services to assist child welfare staff with the increased reporting, tracking and oversight requirements of psychotropic medication use to comply with the psychotropic medication settlement agreement. The agreement will require medical practitioner involvement to ensure the health and safety of children prescribed psychotropic medication and also includes timeliness requirements for reporting, medical exams, and resource parent notification. The agreement applies to all children receiving medications while in custody. This initiative reduces General Fund Personal Services funding by \$24,950 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$118,680 in state fiscal year 2027 and All Other funding by \$1,814 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$7,256 in state fiscal year 2027. This initiative can also be found on page A-68.

2. The next initiative (F-A-1737) on page A-59 transfers and reallocates one Social Services Program Specialist II position from 81% General Fund and 19% Federal Block Grant Fund in the Mental Health Services - Children program to 72% General Fund and 28% Other Special Revenue Funds in the Office of Child and Family Services - Central program. This initiative reduces General Fund by \$24,166 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$116,779 in state fiscal year 2027 and reduces Federal Block Grant Fund allocation by \$5,848 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$28,248 in state fiscal year 2027. This initiative can also be found on page A-68. There are no new positions associated with this initiative.

2. The next initiative (F-A-1737) on page A-59 transfers and reallocates one Social Services Program Specialist II position from 81% General Fund and 19% Federal Block Grant Fund in the Mental Health Services - Children program to 72% General Fund and 28% Other Special Revenue Funds in the Office of Child and Family Services - Central program and adjusts funding for related All Other costs. This initiative aligns the work of the Social Services Program Specialist II position with its proper funding source. This initiative reduces General Fund

Personal Services funding by \$22,696 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$110,902 in state fiscal year 2027 and All Other funding by \$1,470 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$5,877 in state fiscal year 2027 and reduces Federal Block Grant Fund Personal Services allocation by \$5,325 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$26,013 in state fiscal year 2027 and All Other allocation by \$523 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$2,235 in state fiscal year 2027. This initiative can also be found on page A-68.

3. The next initiative (F-A-1931) on page **A-59** transfers and reallocates one Social Services Program Specialist II position from 72% General Fund and 28% Other Special Revenue Funds in the Office of Child and Family Services - Central program to 50% General Fund in the Mental Health Services - Children program and 50% Federal Expenditures Fund in the Office of MaineCare Services program to align the funding with the work the position is performing. This initiative provides General Fund of \$13,873 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$65,285 in state fiscal year 2027. This initiative can also be found on pages A-68 and A-72. There are no new positions associated with this initiative.

3. The next initiative (F-A-1931) on page A-59 transfers and reallocates one Social Services Program Specialist II position from 72% General Fund and 28% Other Special Revenue Funds in the Office of Child and Family Services - Central program to 50% General Fund in the Mental Health Services - Children program and 50% Federal Expenditures Fund in the Office of MaineCare Services program and adjusts funding for related All Other costs. The Children's Behavioral Health Services (CBHS) unit transitioned from the Office of Child and Family Services (OCFS) to the Office of Behavioral Health (OBH) in January 2024. This position continued to be budgeted in OCFS even though the work being performed was under OBH. This initiative aligns the funding with the work the position is performing. This initiative provides General Fund Personal Services funding of \$12,965 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$61,657 in state fiscal year 2027 and All Other funding of \$908 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$3,628 in state fiscal year 2027. This initiative can also be found on pages A-68 and A-72.

4. The next initiative (F-A-1927) on page **A-59** reallocates one Social Services Program Manager position from 76% General Fund and 24% Federal Block Grant Fund in the Mental Health Services - Children program to 50% General Fund in the Mental Health Services - Children program and 50% Federal Expenditures Fund in the Office of MaineCare Services program. The duties of this position extend beyond the current grant funding, and this initiative will align the work being performed with the proper funding sources. This initiative reduces General Fund by \$7,964 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$38,552 in state fiscal year 2027 and reduces Federal Block Grant Fund allocation by \$7,672 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$37,142 in state fiscal year 2027. This initiative can also be found on page A-72. There are no new positions associated with this initiative.

4. The next initiative (F-A-1927) on page A-59 reallocates one Social Services Program Manager position from 76% General Fund and 24% Federal Block Grant Fund in the Mental Health Services - Children program to 50% General Fund in the Mental Health Services -

Children program and 50% Federal Expenditures Fund in the Office of MaineCare Services program and adjusts funding for related All Other costs. The duties of this position extend beyond the current grant funding, and this initiative will align the work being performed with the proper funding sources. This initiative reduces General Fund Personal Services funding by \$7,492 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$36,666 in state fiscal year 2027 and All Other funding by \$472 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$1,886 in state fiscal year 2027 and reduces Federal Block Grant Fund Personal Services allocation by \$6,916 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$33,848 in state fiscal year 2027 and All Other allocation by \$756 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$3,294 in state fiscal year 2027. This initiative can also be found on page A-72.

5. The next initiative (F-A-1932) on page A-59 provides funding to achieve parity with MaineCare cost-of-living adjustments for certain community behavioral health-related services. Public Law 2025, chapter 388 approved cost-of-living adjustments (COLA) for a wide array of MaineCare sections effective July 1, 2025, and another one effective January 1, 2026. The Office of Behavioral Health funds similar services as Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter III, Sections 13, 17, 65, 97-B, 97-D and 97-E for uninsured clients but was not given commensurate funding for its contracts. This initiative provides General Fund of \$17,803 in state fiscal year 2027. This initiative can also be found on pages A-45, A-60 and A-66.

5. The next initiative (F-A-1932) on page A-59 provides funding to achieve parity with MaineCare cost-of-living adjustments for certain community behavioral health-related services. Public Law 2025, chapter 388 approved cost-of-living adjustments (COLA) for a wide array of MaineCare sections effective July 1, 2025, and another one effective January 1, 2026. The Office of Behavioral Health funds similar services as Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter III, Sections 13, 17, 65, 97-B, 97-D and 97-E for uninsured clients but was not given commensurate funding for its contracts. This initiative provides General Fund All Other funding of \$17,803 in state fiscal year 2027. This initiative can also be found on pages A-45, A-60 and A-66.

Office of Child and Family Services - Central

The next program on page A-68 is **Office of Child and Family Services – Central - 0307**. This program has 7 initiatives.

1. The first initiative (F-A-1738) on page A-68 provides funding for the approved reorganization of one Nurse III position to a Child Protective Services Nurse Consultant and moves the position from the Bureau of Behavioral Health to the Office of Child and Family Services to assist child welfare staff with the increased reporting, tracking and oversight requirements of psychotropic medication use to comply with the psychotropic medication settlement agreement. This FJA was approved by Bureau of Human Resources on June 24, 2025. This initiative provides General Fund of \$20,218 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$98,292 in state fiscal year 2027 and increases Other Special Revenue Funds allocation by \$8,209 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$39,891 in state

fiscal year 2027. This initiative can also be found on page A-59. There are no new positions associated with this initiative.

1. The first initiative (F-A-1738) on page A-68 provides funding for the approved reorganization of one Nurse III position to a Child Protective Services Nurse Consultant and transfers and reallocates the position from 100% Mental Health Services - Children, General Fund to 72% General Fund and 28% Other Special Revenue Funds in the Office of Child and Family Services - Central program. This initiative also provides funding for related All Other costs. This initiative provides funding for the approved reorganization of a Nurse III to a Child Protective Services Nurse Consultant position, approved by Bureau of Human Resources on June 24, 2025, and moves the position from the Bureau of Behavioral Health to the Office of Child and Family Services to assist child welfare staff with the increased reporting, tracking and oversight requirements of psychotropic medication use to comply with the psychotropic medication settlement agreement. The agreement will require medical practitioner involvement to ensure the health and safety of children prescribed psychotropic medication and also includes timeliness requirements for reporting, medical exams, and resource parent notification. The agreement applies to all children receiving medications while in custody. This initiative provides General Fund Personal Services funding of \$18,912 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$93,067 in state fiscal year 2027 and All Other funding of \$1,306 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$5,225 in state fiscal year 2027 and increases Other Special Revenue Funds Personal Services allocation by \$7,358 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$36,193 in state fiscal year 2027 and All Other allocation by \$851 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$3,698 in state fiscal year 2027. This initiative can also be found on page A-59.

2. The next initiative (F-A-1737) on page A-68 transfers and reallocates one Social Services Program Specialist II position from 81% General Fund and 19% Federal Block Grant Fund in the Mental Health Services - Children program to 72% General Fund and 28% Other Special Revenue Funds in the Office of Child and Family Services - Central program. This initiative provides General Fund of \$21,480 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$103,805 in state fiscal year 2027 and increases Other Special Revenue Funds allocation by \$10,115 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$41,628 in state fiscal year 2027. This initiative can also be found on page A-59. There are no new positions associated with this initiative.

2. The next initiative (F-A-1737) on page A-68 transfers and reallocates one Social Services Program Specialist II position from 81% General Fund and 19% Federal Block Grant Fund in the Mental Health Services - Children program to 72% General Fund and 28% Other Special Revenue Funds in the Office of Child and Family Services - Central program and adjusts funding for related All Other costs. This initiative aligns the work of the Social Services Program Specialist II position with its proper funding source. This initiative provides General Fund Personal Services funding of \$20,174 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$98,580 in state fiscal year 2027 and All Other funding of \$1,306 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$5,225 in state fiscal year 2027 and increases Other Special Revenue Funds Personal Services allocation by \$9,300 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$38,335 in state fiscal year 2027 and All Other allocation of \$815 in

state fiscal year 2026 and \$3,293 in state fiscal year 2027. This initiative can also be found on page A-59.

3. The next initiative (F-A-7748) on page A-68 establishes 2 Management Analyst II positions in the Office of Child and Family Services - Central program and provides funding to offset the use of federal benefits to pay for or reimburse the Department for any costs of the child's care and would require the Department to establish a special-needs trust to use and conserve the child's benefit. This initiative provides General Fund of \$166,087 and increases Other Special Revenue Funds allocation by \$67,409 in state fiscal year 2027. This initiative can also be found on pages A-51 and A-76.

3. The next initiative (F-A-7748) on page A-68 establishes 2 Management Analyst II positions funded 72% General Fund and 28% Other Special Revenue Funds in the Office of Child and Family Services - Central program and provides funding for related All Other costs. This initiative also provides funding to support the requirements related to offsetting the reimbursement of Federal income benefits to pay for a child's care. This initiative establishes 2 Management Analyst II positions and provides funding to offset the use of federal benefits to pay for or reimburse the Department for any costs of the child's care and would require the Department to establish a special-needs trust to use and conserve the child's benefit. The positions would provide report creation and dissemination for annual accounting to the child, the child's attorney, or their guardian. This initiative would also provide funding for necessary training to children receiving federal benefits, department staff, and representative payees who receive the federal benefit on behalf of the child. This initiative provides General Fund Personal Services funding of \$155,638 and All Other funding of \$10,449 and increases Other Special Revenue Funds Personal Services allocation by \$60,528 and All Other allocation by \$6,881 in state fiscal year 2027. This initiative can also be found on pages A-51 and A-76.

4. The next initiative (F-A-1931) on page A-68 transfers and reallocates one Social Services Program Specialist II position from 72% General Fund and 28% Other Special Revenue Funds in the Office of Child and Family Services - Central program to 50% General Fund in the Mental Health Services - Children program and 50% Federal Expenditures Fund in the Office of MaineCare Services program to align the funding with the work the position is performing. This initiative reduces General Fund by \$19,974 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$94,007 in state fiscal year 2027 and reduces Other Special Revenue Funds allocation by \$8,107 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$38,152 in state fiscal year 2027. This initiative can also be found on pages A-59 and A-72. There are no new positions associated with this initiative.

4. The next initiative (F-A-1931) on page A-68 transfers and reallocates one Social Services Program Specialist II position from 72% General Fund and 28% Other Special Revenue Funds in the Office of Child and Family Services - Central program to 50% General Fund in the Mental Health Services - Children program and 50% Federal Expenditures Fund in the Office of MaineCare Services program and adjusts funding for related All Other costs. The Children's Behavioral Health Services (CBHS) unit transitioned from the Office of Child and Family

Services (OCFS) to the Office of Behavioral Health (OBH) in January 2024. This position continued to be budgeted in OCFS even though the work being performed was under OBH. This initiative aligns the funding with the work the position is performing. This initiative reduces General Fund Personal Services funding by \$18,668 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$88,782 in state fiscal year 2027 and All Other funding by \$1,306 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$5,225 in state fiscal year 2027 and reduces Other Special Revenue Funds Personal Services allocation by \$7,260 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$34,526 in state fiscal year 2027 and All Other allocation by \$847 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$3,626 in state fiscal year 2027. This initiative can also be found on pages A-59 and A-72.

5. The next initiative (F-A-1740) on page **A-69** establishes one Management Analyst II position in the Office of Child and Family Services - Central program to support reporting requirements related to the psychotropic medication settlement. This initiative provides General Fund of \$82,494 and increases Other Special Revenue Funds allocation by \$33,084 in state fiscal year 2027.

5. The next initiative (F-A-1740) on page A-69 establishes one Management Analyst II position funded 72% General Fund and 28% Other Special Revenue Funds in the Office of Child and Family Services - Central program to support reporting requirements related to the psychotropic medication settlement. This initiative also provides funding for related All Other costs. As part of the psychotropic medication settlement, child welfare staff will have increased reporting, tracking and oversight requirements of psychotropic medication use to comply with the agreement. The agreement will require medical practitioner involvement to ensure the health and safety of children prescribed psychotropic medication and also includes timeliness requirements for reporting, medical exams, and resource parent notification. The agreement applies to all children receiving medications while in custody. This position will be responsible for receiving and prioritizing data requests, proper methodology for data collection, providing analysis on data outcomes and creating reports. This initiative provides General Fund Personal Services funding of \$77,269 and All Other funding of \$5,225 and increases Other Special Revenue Funds Personal Services allocation by \$30,050 and All Other allocation by \$3,034 in state fiscal year 2027.

6. The next initiative (F-A-1742) on page **A-69** transfers and reallocates one Agency Procurement & Program Administrator position from the Early Childhood Consultation Program to the Office of Child and Family Services - Central program to allow the position to be properly allocated to the correct funding. This initiative provides General Fund of \$23,124 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$108,882 in state fiscal year 2027 and increases Other Special Revenue Funds allocation by \$9,384 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$44,188 in state fiscal year 2027. This initiative can also be found on page A-49. There are no new positions associated with this initiative.

6. The next initiative (F-A-1742) on page A-69 transfers and reallocates one Agency Procurement & Program Administrator position from the Early Childhood Consultation Program, General Fund to 72% General Fund and 28% Other Special Revenue Funds in the

Office of Child and Family Services - Central program and adjusts funding for related All Other costs. The Agency Procurement & Program Administrator position is part of the Child Welfare Program within the Office of Child and Family Services (OCFS), which is the primary point of contact for the OCFS business service team for request for proposal development, contract addendums, amendments, renewals, and new contracts as well as managing federal grants. Currently, this position is charged directly to the Early Childhood Consultation Program which creates a cost allocation issue when they work on different programs not supported by the Early Childhood Consultation Program. To resolve this issue, OCFS requests this position be assigned to the General Fund and Other Special Revenue Funds. This will allow the position to be properly allocated to the correct funding. This initiative provides General Fund Personal Services funding of \$21,718 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$103,657 in state fiscal year 2027 and All Other funding of \$1,406 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$5,225 in state fiscal year 2027 and increases Other Special Revenue Funds Personal Services allocation by \$8,446 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$40,310 in state fiscal year 2027 and All Other allocation by \$938 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$3,878 in state fiscal year 2027. This initiative can also be found on page A-49.

7. The next initiative (F-A-1743) on page A-69 transfers and reallocates one Social Services Program Specialist II position from the Office of Child and Family Services - Central program to the Early Childhood Consultation Program to allow the position to be properly allocated to the correct funding source. This initiative reduces General Fund by \$18,353 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$86,852 in state fiscal year 2027 and reduces Other Special Revenue Funds allocation by \$7,448 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$35,248 in state fiscal year 2027. This initiative can also be found on page A-49. There are no new positions associated with this initiative.

7. The next initiative (F-A-1743) on page A-69 transfers and reallocates one Social Services Program Specialist II position from 72% General Fund and 28% Other Special Revenue Funds in the Office of Child and Family Services - Central program to 50% General Fund and 50% Federal Block Grant Fund in the Early Childhood Consultation Program and adjusts funding for related All Other costs. The Social Service Program Specialist II position is part of the Early Childhood Consultation Program within the Office of Child and Family Services (OCFS), which provides strategies and training to improve the capacity of early childhood educators as they work with social emotional needs of children. The program also incorporates consultation for families (including resource families) of children referred for support through the child's early childhood education setting. Currently, this position is charged directly to the Office of Child and Family Services - Central program, General Fund and Other Special Revenue Funds which creates a cost allocation issue when they work on the Early Childhood Consultation Program. To resolve this issue, OCFS requests this position be assigned to the Early Childhood Consultation Program and allocated to General Fund and Federal Block Grant Fund. This will allow the position to be properly allocated to the correct Federal or State fund source. This initiative reduces General Fund Personal Services funding by \$17,047 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$81,627 in state fiscal year 2027 and All Other funding by \$1,306 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$5,225 in state fiscal year 2027 and reduces Other Special Revenue Funds Personal Services allocation by \$6,629 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$31,744 in state fiscal year 2027 and

All Other allocation by \$819 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$3,504 in state fiscal year 2027. This initiative can also be found on page A-49.

Office of Child and Family Services - District

The next program on page A-70 is **Office of Child and Family Services – District – 0452**. This program has 4 initiatives.

1. The first initiative (F-A-1741) on page A-70 establishes 2 Child Protective Services Nurse Consultant positions in the Office of Child and Family Services - District program to support reporting requirements related to the psychotropic medication settlement. The agreement will require medical practitioner involvement to ensure the health and safety of children prescribed psychotropic medication and also includes timeliness requirements for reporting, medical exams, and resource parent notification. This initiative provides General Fund of \$212,466 and increases Other Special Revenue Funds allocation by \$58,247 in state fiscal year 2027.

1. The first initiative (F-A-1741) on page A-70 establishes 2 Child Protective Services Nurse Consultant positions funded 79% General Fund and 21% Other Special Revenue Funds in the Office of Child and Family Services - District program to support reporting requirements related to the psychotropic medication settlement. This initiative also provides funding for related All Other costs. As part of the psychotropic medication settlement, child welfare staff will have increased reporting, tracking and oversight requirements of psychotropic medication use to comply with the agreement. The agreement will require medical practitioner involvement to ensure the health and safety of children prescribed psychotropic medication and also includes timeliness requirements for reporting, medical exams, and resource parent notification. The agreement applies to all children receiving medications while in custody. These positions will be responsible for providing the data and information necessary to support the reporting requirements needed in the implementation and tracking of psychotropic medication settlement requirements. This initiative provides General Fund Personal Services funding of \$201,002 and All Other funding of \$11,464 and increases Other Special Revenue Funds Personal Services allocation by \$53,434 and All Other allocation by \$4,813 in state fiscal year 2027.

2. The next initiative (F-A-1739) on page A-70 establishes one Child Protective Services Case Aide position in the Office of Child and Family Services - District program to support requirements related to the psychotropic medication settlement. This initiative provides General Fund of \$75,551 and increases Other Special Revenue Funds allocation by \$20,712 in state fiscal year 2027.

2. The next initiative (F-A-1739) on page A-70 establishes one Child Protective Services Case Aide position funded 79% General Fund and 21% Other Special Revenue Funds in the Office of Child and Family Services - District program to support requirements related to the psychotropic medication settlement. This initiative also provides funding for related All Other costs. This position will support Child Protective Services Caseworkers and Child Protective Services

Caseworker Supervisors in complying with the requirements of the psychotropic medication settlement. As part of the psychotropic medication settlement, child welfare staff will have increased reporting, tracking and oversight requirements of psychotropic medication use to comply with the agreement. The agreement will require medical practitioner involvement to ensure the health and safety of children prescribed psychotropic medication and also includes timeliness requirements for reporting, medical exams, and resource parent notification. The agreement applies to all children receiving medications while in custody. This initiative provides General Fund Personal Services funding of \$69,819 and All Other funding of \$5,732 and increases Other Special Revenue Funds Personal Services allocation by \$18,560 and All Other allocation by \$2,152 in state fiscal year 2027.

3. The next initiative (F-A-1746) on page A-70 provides funding for the proposed reclassification of 9 Child Protective Services Program Administrator positions from range 28 to range 30 confidential in the Office of Child and Family Services - District program. In 2015 an employee-initiated FJA was submitted and was denied by Bureau of Human Resources on January 29, 2018. The decision was appealed and a settlement agreement is currently pending. This initiative provides General Fund of \$68,586 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$68,839 in state fiscal year 2027 and increases Other Special Revenue Funds allocation by \$18,646 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$18,717 in state fiscal year 2027. There are no new positions associated with this initiative.

3. The next initiative (F-A-1746) on page A-70 provides funding for the proposed reclassification of 9 Child Protective Services Program Administrator positions from range 28 to range 30 confidential funded 79% General Fund and 21% Other Special Revenue Funds in the Office of Child and Family Services - District program and provides funding for related All Other costs. In 2015 an employee-initiated FJA was submitted and was denied by Bureau of Human Resources on January 29, 2018. The decision was appealed and a settlement agreement is currently pending which states a budget initiative will be submitted to reclass the positions from range 28 to range 30. Also, Public Law 2023, chapter 643 approved the range change of Child Protective Services Caseworker positions and Child Protective Services Caseworker Supervisor positions causing a paygrade compression in the child welfare organization. This initiative would correct the pay inequity. This initiative provides General Fund Personal Services funding of \$68,586 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$68,839 in state fiscal year 2027 and increases Other Special Revenue Funds Personal Services allocation by \$18,223 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$18,293 in state fiscal year 2027 and All Other allocation by \$423 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$424 in state fiscal year 2027.

4. The next initiative (F-A-1747) on page A-70 provides funding for the approved reorganization of 3 Social Services Supervisor positions in the Office of Child and Family Services - District program and 6 Social Services Supervisor positions in the State-funded Foster Care/Adoption Services program to Social Services Program Specialist II positions, retroactive to February 23, 2024. The FJA was approved by the Bureau of Human Resources on September 9, 2025, retroactive to February 23, 2024, due to this being an employee-initiated FJA. This initiative

provides General Fund of \$28,055 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$12,860 in state fiscal year 2027 and increases Other Special Revenue Funds allocation by \$7,637 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$3,524 in state fiscal year 2027. This initiative can also be found on page A-76. There are no new positions associated with this initiative.

4. The next initiative (F-A-1747) on page A-70 provides funding for the approved reorganization of 3 Social Services Supervisor positions funded 79% General Fund and 21% Other Special Revenue Funds in the Office of Child and Family Services - District program and 6 Social Services Supervisor positions funded 70% General Fund and 30% Other Special Revenue Funds in the State-funded Foster Care/Adoption Services program to Social Services Program Specialist II positions, retroactive to February 23, 2024, and provides funding for related All Other costs. This initiative also provides one-time funding for retroactive payments. The tasks, skills and abilities required to effectively fulfill the position are equal to and / or comparable to the Social Services Program Specialist II classification which was approved by the Bureau of Human Resources on September 9, 2025, retroactive to February 23, 2024, due to this being an employee-initiated FJA. This initiative provides General Fund Personal Services funding of \$28,055 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$12,860 in state fiscal year 2027 and increases Other Special Revenue Funds Personal Services allocation by \$7,458 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$3,417 in state fiscal year 2027 and All Other allocation of \$179 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$107 in state fiscal year 2027. This initiative can also be found on page A-76.

State-Funded Foster Care/Adoption Assistance

The next program on page A-76 is **State-Funded Foster Care/Adoption Assistance - 0139**. This program has 2 initiatives.

1. The first initiative (F-A-7748) on page A-76 establishes 2 Management Analyst II positions in the Office of Child and Family Services - Central program and provides funding to offset the use of federal benefits to pay for or reimburse the Department for any costs of the child's care and would require the Department to establish a special-needs trust to use and conserve the child's benefit. This initiative provides General Fund of \$1,236,188 in state fiscal year 2027. This initiative can also be found on pages A-51 and A-68.

1. The first initiative (F-A-7748) on page A-76 establishes 2 Management Analyst II positions funded 72% General Fund and 28% Other Special Revenue Funds in the Office of Child and Family Services - Central program and provides funding for related All Other costs. This initiative also provides funding to support the requirements related to offsetting the reimbursement of Federal income benefits to pay for a child's care. This initiative establishes 2 Management Analyst II positions and provides funding to offset the use of federal benefits to pay for or reimburse the Department for any costs of the child's care and would require the Department to establish a special-needs trust to use and conserve the child's benefit. The positions would provide report creation and dissemination for annual accounting to the child, the child's attorney, or their guardian. This initiative would also provide funding for necessary

training for children receiving federal benefits, department staff, and representative payees who receive the federal benefit on behalf of the child. This initiative provides General Fund All Other funding of \$1,236,188 in state fiscal year 2027. This initiative can also be found on pages A-51 and A-68.

2. The next initiative (F-A-1747) on page **A-76** provides funding for the approved reorganization of 3 Social Services Supervisor positions in the Office of Child and Family Services - District program and 6 Social Services Supervisor positions in the State-funded Foster Care/Adoption Services program to Social Services Program Specialist II positions, retroactive to February 23, 2024. The FJA was approved by the Bureau of Human Resources on September 9, 2025, retroactive to February 23, 2024, due to this being an employee-initiated FJA. This initiative provides General Fund of \$50,232 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$19,994 in state fiscal year 2027 and increases Other Special Revenue Funds allocation by \$22,031 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$8,835 in state fiscal year 2027. This initiative can also be found on page A-70. There are no new positions associated with this initiative.

2. The next initiative (F-A-1747) on page A-76 provides funding for the approved reorganization of 3 Social Services Supervisor positions funded 79% General Fund and 21% Other Special Revenue Funds in the Office of Child and Family Services - District program and 6 Social Services Supervisor positions funded 70% General Fund and 30% Other Special Revenue Funds in the State-funded Foster Care/Adoption Services program to Social Services Program Specialist II positions, retroactive to February 23, 2024, and provides funding for related All Other costs. This initiative also provides one-time funding for retroactive payments. The tasks, skills and abilities required to effectively fulfill the position are equal to and / or comparable to the Social Services Program Specialist II classification which was approved by the Bureau of Human Resources on September 9, 2025, retroactive to February 23, 2024, due to this being an employee-initiated FJA. This initiative provides General Fund Personal Services funding of \$50,232 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$19,994 in state fiscal year 2027 and increases Other Special Revenue Funds Personal Services allocation by \$21,527 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$8,567 in state fiscal year 2027 and All Other allocation of \$504 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$268 in state fiscal year 2027. This initiative can also be found on page A-70.

Child Care Services

The first program on page **A-45** is **Child Care Services – 0563**. This program supports the childcare subsidy program by providing subsidies for qualifying families and supports training for childcare providers. This program has one initiative.

1. This initiative (F-A-1735) on page **A-45** provides funding for the approved reclassification of one Social Services Manager I position to a Social Services Program Manager position in the Child Care Services program, retroactive to February 27, 2024, and approved by Bureau of Human Resources on October 3, 2024. This initiative also provides a one-time retroactive

amount. This initiative provides General Fund of \$12,125 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$3,918 in state fiscal year 2027. There are no new positions associated with this initiative.

1. This initiative (F-A-1735) on page A-45 provides funding for the approved reclassification of one Social Services Manager I position to a Social Services Program Manager position in the Child Care Services program, retroactive to February 27, 2024. This initiative also provides a one-time retroactive amount. This initiative provides funding for the employee-initiated reclassification of one Social Services Manager I position to a Social Services Program Manager position in the Child Care Services program, General Fund, approved by Bureau of Human Resources on October 3, 2024, retroactive to February 27, 2024. This initiative provides General Fund Personal Services funding of \$12,125 in state fiscal year 2026 and \$3,918 in state fiscal year 2027.

Language

Language submitted on page **68, Part XX**, permits the Department of Health and Human Services to directly issue an annual heating assistance payment to SNAP households.

Language submitted on page **68, Part YY**, removes the legislative requirement for the Department of Health and Human Services to provide \$3,000,000 to Maine State Housing Authority for use in programs under their jurisdiction. This language relates to F-A-1857 on page A-50.

Language submitted on page **69, Part CCC**, allows \$1,000,000 of the unencumbered balance forward within the State Supplemental to Federal Supplemental Security Income, General Fund account to lapse to the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund no later than June 30, 2027.

Language submitted on page **69, Part BBB**, authorizes the Department of Health and Human Services to adopt emergency rules to implement any provisions of this Act over which it has specific authority that has not been addressed by some other Part of the Act without the necessity of demonstrating that immediate adoption is necessary to avoid a threat to public health, safety or welfare.

Language submitted on page **70, Part DDD**, lapses \$3,600,000 of the unencumbered balance forward within the Department of Health and Human Services, General Fund carrying accounts to the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund no later than June 2026.

Language submitted on page **44, Sec. T-12**, on or before June 30, 2026, the State Controller shall transfer \$275,575 and on or before June 30, 2027, the State Controller shall transfer \$4,059,371 from the Budget Stabilization Fund within the Department of Administrative and Financial Services to the Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Family Independence program, Other Special Revenue Funds account for onetime needs for technology and

compliance with new federal legislation, pursuant to the July 2025 Federal Budget Reconciliation law (H.R. 1), P.L. 119-21.

Language submitted on page 44, **Sec. T-13**, on or before June 30, 2026, the State Controller shall transfer \$38,942 and on or before June 30, 2027, the State Controller shall transfer \$537,500 from the Budget Stabilization Fund within the Department of Administrative and Financial Services to the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of MaineCare Services program, Other Special Revenue Funds account for onetime needs for technology and compliance with new federal legislation, pursuant to the July 2025 Federal Budget Reconciliation law (H.R. 1), P.L. 119-21..

Sec. T-14. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF

Office for Family Independence Z020

Initiative: Provides one-time funding for one-time technology adjustments and compliance with new federal legislation, H.R. 1 - One Big Beautiful Bill Act, P.L. 119-21.

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2025-2026	2026-2027
All Other	\$569,665	\$13,474,380
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OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$569,665	\$13,474,380

Office of MaineCare Services 0129

Initiative: Provides one-time funding for one-time technology adjustments and compliance with new federal legislation, H.R-1 - One Big Beautiful Bill Act, P.L. 119-21.

FEDERAL FUNDS	2025-2026	2026-2027
All Other	\$206,750	\$1,069,932
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FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUNDS TOTAL	\$206,750	\$1,069,932

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2025-2026	2026-2027
All Other \$38,942 \$537,500		
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OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$38,942	\$537,500

APPENDIX A: Reclasses/Reorgs/Range Changes

Civil Service Rules require the State’s Human Resources Officer to maintain the classification plan and establish the processes and procedures with which to do so. There is a long-standing process in place to evaluate proper classification of positions and determine through a functional job analysis whether a position meets the requirements for reclassification, including any pay adjustment. The State’s collective bargaining unit agreements include negotiated language related to this process. Actions may include changing classification or keeping the same classification, but changing pay range (usually referenced in blippie as range change). Requests may be employee initiated (usually referred to as reclass) or management initiated (usually referred to as reorganization). Approved employee-initiated actions include a retroactive pay component back to the date the request was signed. Reclass/reorg/range change initiatives in Part A of the budget are necessary to fund these approved actions, which is required before the action can be processed and paid.

Page	Program	Fund	FY 2026 Amount	FY 2027 Amount
A-45	056301	010	12,125.00	3,918.00
A-46	014201	010	(20,512.00)	(101,653.00)
A-46	014201	014	(13,675.00)	(67,768.00)
A-53	014330	024	11,418.00	4,925.00
A-59	Z20607	010	(24,950.00)	(118,680.00)
A-68	030701	010	18,912.00	93,067.00
A-68	030701	014	7,358.00	36,193.00
A-70	045201	010	68,586.00	68,839.00
A-70	045201	014	18,223.00	18,293.00
A-70	045201	010	28,055.00	12,860.00
A-70	045201	014	7,458.00	3,417.00
A-72	012901	010	13,542.00	67,220.00
A-72	012901	013	13,543.00	67,224.00
A-74	012901	010	654.00	1,711.00
A-74	012901	013	654.00	1,710.00
A-76	013901	010	50,232.00	19,994.00
A-76	013901	014	21,527.00	8,567.00