

**Testimony of Brittany Gleixner-Hayat
Volunteer Maine, Maine Commission for Community Service.**

**Before the Joint Standing Committees on
Appropriations and Financial Affairs and
State and Local Government**

Hearing Date: February 24, 2026, 4:00 pm

Good afternoon, Senators Rotundo and Baldacci, Representatives Gattine and Salisbury, and Members of the Joint Standing Committees on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and State and Local Government. My name is Brittany Gleixner-Hayat and I am the Executive Director of Volunteer Maine, the Maine Commission for Community Service. I am here today to testify regarding items in LD 2212 the Governor's Supplemental Budget proposal for State fiscal years 2026 and 2027, specifically the Maine Service Fellows program found on **page A-96**.

Volunteer Maine was established 30 years ago to foster and inspire community service and volunteerism to address critical needs in the State of Maine. Our vision is to have vibrant, productive communities with involved, responsible citizens. In 2025, Volunteer Maine delivered more than \$2 million in AmeriCorps grants directly benefiting communities across Maine, provided training and technical assistance to over 400 managers and leaders of volunteer programs, fielded five Maine Service Fellows in rural and underserved communities, and launched ServeMaine.org a new statewide volunteer matching platform free for all to use and aimed at increasing volunteer recruitment levels. These are just a few of our accomplishments this year.

The items before you today relevant to Volunteer Maine are "housekeeping" in nature following the transfer of Volunteer Maine from the Department of Education to the Maine Office of Community Affairs but are nonetheless critical for our operations.

Maine Service Fellows Program (Z417)

The program is established within the Maine Commission for Community Service to increase the opportunities for individuals to devote service to communities in the State; attract and retain in the State motivated adults who have completed a college degree within the prior five years to serve in positions where they can apply skills and abilities to projects for the benefit of citizens of the State; provide rural and underserved communities in the State a resource to address critical health and human, public safety, education and environmental needs; and strengthen civic engagement through solutions based in whole or in part in volunteer service.

The first initiative in this program on page A-96 increases allocation by \$10,000 in fiscal year 2027 for projected annual revenues from site fees for Maine Service Fellows placement. The funds will be used to support Maine Service Fellows Program staff in attending critical work-related events, including capacity building and professional development, as well as supporting outreach to increase visibility of the program.

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

The second initiative in this program on page A-96 provides funding of \$226,110 in fiscal year 2027 for a portion of Resilient Maine: Local Adaptation and Resilience Actions at a Coastwide Scale grant.

Initiative: Provides funding for All Other costs for a five-year grant received from the U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

I would be happy to address any questions you may have.

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. Reclass initiatives in Part B are self-funded.

Page	Program	Fund	FY26 Amount	FY27 Amount
A-92	Z419	OSR	49,842	44,752

APPENDIX C: Centralized Services

The Department of Administrative and Financial Services (DAFS) develops, delivers, and maintains centralized government systems that support the financial, human resource, physical and technological infrastructure of state government. The services are billed to agencies through Internal Service Funds.

All components of an Internal Service Fund, including staff, All Other and capital, are included in Internal Service Fund budgeting. Personal Services increases the result of collective bargaining, or any other Personal Services action, as well as increases to All Other costs for various reasons, including vendor increases or supply chain costs, etc. impact these budgets. Internal Service Funds are meant to recover the costs of providing the service. DAFS bills agencies for these services and the agencies pay the bills with All Other funds.

In the 2026-2027 biennial budget, DAFS adjusted these rates for all of the reasons outlined above, but primarily because of significant collective bargaining efforts approved by the Governor and Legislature. Agency All Other funds are not increased in the baseline to reflect the increased costs of the Internal Service Funds, so statewide agencies will include initiatives for additional All Other to cover these services.

DAFS Centralized Services Internal Service Funds include:

- Service Centers within DAFS provide centralized accounting, payroll, budgeting and human resources services to departments and agencies.
- MaineIT is responsible for the delivery of safe, secure, and high-performing networks and systems to State Agencies for daily performance of their missions for the citizens of Maine. IT enterprise functions benefitting all state agencies are managed through this office to ensure consistency, volume discount efficiencies, and optimum performance and throughput.
- Central Fleet Management (CFM) within DAFS centrally procures, distributes and disposes of passenger and light truck vehicles. CFM handles many aspects of vehicle service including writing vehicle specifications, ordering vehicles, providing drivers with maintenance schedules, service assistance, fueling resources, insurance protection, and accident information processing.
- The Division of Risk Management within DAFS provides high quality insurance, loss control and claims services to all state agencies, the State's higher education institutions and some quasi-state agencies at the lowest possible cost.
- The Division of Leased Space manages leases encompassing office, warehouse, garage, storage, tower, classroom, mixed-use, and training spaces.

- Central Services within DAFS provides a wide range of mail services, including interoffice mail, as well as disposition of state surplus materials and equipment no longer needed by the state agency that purchased them. This group also manages federal surplus property.

Page	Program	Service	Fund	FY26 Amt	FY27 Amt
A-95	Z396	Svc Center	GF	47,500	47,500