

**FY26 / 27 Supplemental Budget – L.D. 2212**  
**Testimony of Attorney General Aaron M. Frey**  
**Office of the Attorney General**  
**Before the Joint Standing Committees on Appropriations and Financial**  
**Affairs and Judiciary**  
**February 27, 2026**

Good morning Senator Rotundo, Representative Gattine, and esteemed members of the Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee, and Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and esteemed members of Judiciary Committee. My name is Aaron Frey and I have the privilege to serve as Maine’s Attorney General. I appreciate this opportunity to present initiatives and language submitted on behalf of the Office of the Attorney General (“Office”) in the FY2026-2027 Supplemental Budget.

Starting on page A-13 of the Part A budget proposals under the heading ADMINISTRATION – ATTORNEY GENERAL 0310, there are six (6) proposed initiatives.

The first initiative on page A-13 eliminates one vacant Secretary Legal position that has been vacant for a long period of time and is no longer needed for the program to operate.

The third initiative on page A-13 establishes one Assistant Attorney General position that would focus on housing issues, with particular attention to enforcement of licensing issues of manufactured housing communities and related legal services. This initiative relates to the proposed transfer of oversight of manufactured housing from the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation over to the Maine Office of Community Affairs (“MOCA”), in particular the transfer of the Manufactured Housing Board staff over to MOCA. Information about this transfer may be found in testimony provided by MOCA on 02/19/2026 at 1:30p and

information supporting this effort may be found in *L.D. 1765 Report to the Joint Standing Committee on Housing and Economic Development* dated 12/31/2025.

The fifth initiative listed on page A-13 establishes a paralegal to support prosecution of homicides in the criminal division of the Office. The current number of pending homicides, the discovery obligations on the state, and the support needed to ensure the State is prepared for trial, has strained current staff capacity. This position is needed to ensure appropriate staffing capacity for the demands of prosecuting the most serious criminal offenses brought by the State.

The sixth initiative would provide an allotment to cover the 25% state match to the 75% federal funding for positions in the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit. This initiative streamlines the administrative process to ensure these match funds are applied.

Finally, the second and fourth initiatives on page A-13 that deal with reclassifications and range changes are addressed in a separate attachment.

At Page A-14, under the heading DISTRICT ATTORNEYS SALARIES 0409, there are three (3) proposed initiatives.

The first initiative eliminates four (4) Assistant District Attorney positions that were originally created when there were federal grant funds to support them. The federal funding for these positions has receded and no new funding is expected to follow for these positions, leaving them unfunded and vacant.

The second initiative continues and makes permanent an Assistant District Attorney position that was created when federal Sex Assault Kit Investigation (“SAKI”) grant funds were applied for, and awarded, to enhance investigation and prosecution of sexual assault cases. This position is housed in Prosecutorial District II. This

initiative is needed to ensure the position remains for as long as there is federal funding to support it.

The third initiative provides funding for a state email for each district attorney, deputy district attorney, and assistant district attorney that is needed in order for these employees to use the State's new human resources and payroll system.

At Page A-15, under the heading HUMAN SERVICES DIVISION 0696, there are two (2) proposed initiatives, both of which deal with approved reclassifications and are addressed in a separate attachment.

There is one language component included in the supplemental budget package found on page 54 of the general fund bill language proposals. Part BB is needed to allow the Office to cover the cost of licenses for the criminal division to access the electronic case management system that will be shared with the Prosecutorial Districts. This initiative would also allow the Office to cover the costs of increased data storage since these case files are often voluminous. This is particularly important because it is how the criminal division will connect into the electronic filing system being deployed by the Judicial Branch and how it will preserve case files.

Thank you for your attention to these initiatives and this concludes the supplemental budget presentation for the Office of the Attorney General. We will be happy to answer any questions and will have staff available for any work sessions on these initiatives.

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**Attachment to Testimony of Attorney General Aaron M. Frey**  
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**Initiatives Dealing with Reclassifications and Range Changes**

There are four (4) initiatives included in the FY2026-2027 Supplemental Budget that propose to deal with approved reclassifications and range changes. Taken together, these initiatives impact six (6) positions.

The second initiative on page A-13 provides funding for the approved reclassification of a position located in the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit, which better aligns the work of this position with a more appropriate job classification.

The fourth initiative on page A-13 provides funding for the approved range change of the three (3) victim witness advocate positions housed in the Office, which better aligns the work of these positions with a more appropriate job classification.

The first initiative on page A-15 provides funding for the approved range change of a position in the Child Support Division, which better aligns the work of this position with a more appropriate job classification.

The second initiative on page A-15 provides funding for the approved reclassification of a position in the Child Protection Division, which better aligns the work of the position with a more appropriate job classification.