

FISCAL COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL COURT
MINUTES
June 20, 2024

The Fiscal Committee of the General Court met on Thursday, June 20, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. in the State House, Room 100.

Members in attendance were as follows:

Representative Ken Weyler, Chairman
Representative Keith Erf, Clerk
Representative Jess Edwards
Representative Mary Jane Wallner
Representative Peter Leishman
Representative Gerald Griffin (Alternate)
Senator Ruth Ward (Alternate)
Senate Tim Lang (Alternate)
Senator Regina Birdsell
Senator Lou D'Allesandro
Senator Cindy Rosenwald

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:

On a motion by Senator Rosenwald, seconded by Representative Leishman, that the Committee approve the minutes of the May 17, 2024 meeting as written. MOTION ADOPTED. (8-Yes; 0-No; 2-Abstained)

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

CONSENT CALENDAR

As announced by the Chair, the following items were removed from the Consent Calendar to be acted on individually;

- Tab 3 Pursuant to RSA 9:16-a.
FIS 24-228, 24-230
- Tab 4 Pursuant to RSA 14:30-a, VI.
FIS 24-227

On a motion by Senator D'Allesandro, seconded by Senator Lang, that the Committee approve all the remaining requests as submitted under the Consent Calendar, Tabs 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8. MOTION ADOPTED. [TAB 3 pursuant to RSA 9:16-a, II, FIS 24-200 Department of Labor – authorization to transfer \$142,815 in other funds through June 30, 2024, FIS 24-201 Department of Transportation – authorization to transfer \$232,032 in turnpike funds between various classes through June 30, 2024, FIS 24-202 Department of Transportation – authorization to transfer \$396,249 in other/highway funds between various classes through June 30, 2024, and FIS 24-217 New Hampshire Veterans Home – authorization to transfer \$356,000 general/federal/other funds between expenditure classes through June 30, 2024; TAB 4 pursuant to RSA 14:30-a, VI, FIS 24-203 Department of Agriculture, Markets and Food – authorization to budget and expend \$411,100 in other funds through June 30, 2025, FIS 24-204 Department of Agriculture, Markets and Food – authorization to budget and expend \$136,200 in other funds through June 30, 2025, FIS 24-206 Department of Environmental Services – authorization to accept and expend \$132,638 in federal funds through June 30, 2025, FIS 24-209 Department of Military Affairs and Veterans Services – authorization to accept and expend \$5,397 in federal funds through September 30, 2024, and FIS 24-229 Department of Justice – authorization to budget and expend \$596,025 in other funds for the purpose of covering a portion of future projected shortfalls in general litigation expenses expected to be incurred in FY 2025 in the defense of the State and the prosecution of criminal laws through June 30, 2025; TAB 5 pursuant to RSA 14:30-a, VI. and RSA 9:16-a, II, FIS 24-221 Department of Administrative Services – authorization through June 30, 2025 to; 1) accept and expend \$222,975 in other funds, and 2) transfer \$309,897 in general funds between accounting units, and create new expense class codes; TAB 6 pursuant to RSA 124:15, FIS 24-212 New Hampshire Fish and Game Department – authorization through June 30, 2025 to; 1) establish a temporary full-time 41-9020 REAL ESTATE AGTS-2 position and FIS 24-213 Department of Justice – authorization through June 30, 2025 to; 1) establish one (1) temporary full-time Investigative Paralegal position 9T3355; TAB 7 pursuant to ARPA RSA 14:30-a, VI., FIS 24-205 New Hampshire Employment Security – authorization to amend FIS 23-166, approved May 19, 2023, by extending the end date from June 30, 2024 to June 30, 2025 (Originally approved (FIS 22-426) on November 18, 2022), FIS 24-207 Department of Environmental Services – authorization to amend FIS 22-195, approved May 20, 2022, with subsequent action on (FIS 22-330) October 14, 2022, (FIS 23-166) May 19, 2023, and (FIS 24-182) on May 17, 2024, by reallocating funds in the amount of \$1,721,324 in federal ARPA funds between class lines through June 30, 2025, FIS 24-208 Department of Information Technology – authorization to amend FIS 22-265, approved July 22, 2022, and subsequently amended on (FIS 23-166) May 19, 2023, and (FIS 24-182) May 17, 2024, by transferring \$500,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) in and among classes within an accounting unit through June 30, 2025, FIS 24-210 Department of Safety – authorization to amend FIS 22-351, approved October 14, 2022, by extending all end dates on the original request from June 30, 2024 to June 30, 2025 and reallocate \$75,026 in federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA), State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF), as part of the State Workforce Efficiency Enhancement Program (SWEEP) through June 30, 2025, FIS 24-218 Department of Health and Human Services – authorization to amend FIS 21-139, approved June 8, 2021, and subsequently amended on (FIS 22-314) September 9, 2022, and (FIS 23-166) May 19, 2023, by extending the end date from June 30, 2024 to June 30, 2025, FIS 24-220 New Hampshire Veterans Home – authorization to amend FIS 22-360, approved October 14, 2022, and subsequently amended on (FIS 23-166) May 19, 2023 and (FIS 24-182) May 17, 2024, by transferring \$309,891 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) among various class lines through June 30, 2025, and FIS 24-231 Department of Education – authorization to amend FIS 21-268, approved September 17, 2021, with subsequent action on (FIS 23-167) May 19, 2023 and (FIS 23-249) September 14, 2023, by extending the end date from June 30, 2024 to June 30, 2025;

and TAB 8 pursuant to ARPA RSA 14:30-a, VI. and RSA 124:15, FIS 24-211 Department of Information Technology – authorization to; 1) amend FIS 22-114, approved March 18, 2022, and subsequently amended on (FIS 23-166) May 19, 2023, by extending the end date from June 30, 2024 to June 30, 2025, and 2) contingent upon approval of Request #1, authorization to extend Class 046-Consultants from June 30, 2024 to June 30, 2025 and FIS 24-219 Department of Health and Human Services – authorization to; 1) amend FIS 23-167, approved May 19, 2023, by extending the end date for funding and for temporary full-time positions of the grant awards as identified in lines 1 through 13 of Attachment A to June 30, 2025, and 2) retroactively amend FIS 23-167, approved May 19, 2023, by extending the end date for funding and for temporary full-time positions of the grant awards as identified in lines 14 through 17 of Attachment A to June 30, 2025, and effective retroactive to March 1, 2024 for lines 14 through 16, and September 30, 2023 for line 17]

RSA 9:16-a, TRANSFERS AUTHORIZED:

CONSENT CALENDAR

FIS 24-228 Department of Health and Human Services – Nathan White, Chief Financial Officer, Karen Hebert, Director, Division of Economic Stability, and Henry Lipman, Director, Division of Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Representative Edwards, seconded by Senator D’Allesandro, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Health and Human Services to transfer \$1,000,750 in general/federal funds effective July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025. MOTION ADOPTED.

FIS 24-230 Department of Health and Human Services – Nathan White, Chief Financial Officer, Melissa Hardy, Director, Division of Long Term Supports and Services, and Henry Lipman, Director, Division of Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Senator Rosenwald, seconded by Senator Birdsell, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Health and Human Services to transfer \$8,004,000 in federal/general funds through June 30, 2025. MOTION ADOPTED.

RSA 14:30-a, VI FISCAL COMMITTEE APPROVAL REQUIRED FOR ACCEPTANCE AND EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS OVER \$100,000 FROM ANY NON-STATE SOURCE:

CONSENT CALENDAR

FIS 24-227 Department of Health and Human Services – Nathan White, Chief Financial Officer, and Henry Lipman, Director, Division of Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Senator Rosenwald, seconded by Representative Leishman, that the Committee table the request of the Department of Health and Human Services to budget and expend \$2,530,113 in other funds and decrease general funds by \$2,530,113 through June 30, 2025. MOTION ADOPTED. (7-Yes; 3-No)

RSA 9:16-a, TRANSFERS AUTHORIZED, RSA 9:16-c, TRANSFER OF FEDERAL GRANT FUNDS, AND RSA 9:17-a, III, LIMITATIONS:

REGULAR CALENDAR

FIS 24-222 Department of Health and Human Services – On a motion by Senator Lang, seconded by Senator Rosenwald, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Health and Human Services to transfer \$16,006 in general funds between various class lines, and increase and decrease federal revenues resulting in a net decrease of \$0 through June 30, 2025. MOTION ADOPTED.

RSA 363:28, III, OFFICE OF THE CONSUMER ADVOCATE:

REGULAR CALENDAR

FIS 24-215 Office of the Consumer Advocate – Donald Kreis, Consumer Advocate, Office of the Consumer Advocate, responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Senate Lang, seconded by Senator Birdsell, that the Committee approve the request of the Office of the Consumer Advocate to enter into a SOLE SOURCE contract amendment with Aaron Rothschild of 15 Lake Road, Ridgefield, Connecticut 06877 to provide certain expert services in connection with rate cases at the Public Utilities Commission, by increasing the contract amount by \$70,000 from the original amount of \$140,000 to \$210,000 through June 30, 2025 (Previously approved (FIS 23-237) on August 11, 2023). MOTION ADOPTED.

CHAPTER 79:11, LAWS OF 2023, DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS; TRANSFER AUTHORITY:

REGULAR CALENDAR

FIS 24-214 Department of Corrections – Helen Hanks, Commissioner, and Lisa Stone, Director of Administration, Department of Corrections, responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Senator Lang, seconded by Senator Birdsell, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Corrections to transfer \$6,085,570 in general funds among accounts through June 30, 2024. MOTION ADOPTED.

OTHER QUESTION:

Morissa Henn, Deputy Commissioner, Department of Health and Human Services responded to questions of Senator Birdsell regarding the Hampstead Hospital pilot payment, stating that any questions should be directed to the Governor.

CHAPTER 106, LAWS OF 2023, AGENCY FOOTNOTE:

REGULAR CALENDAR

FIS 24-223 Department of Administrative Services – On a motion by Senator Birdsell, seconded by Senator Lang, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Administrative Services for a warrant to be drawn from money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated in the amount of \$157,120 to cover unanticipated utility appropriation budgetary shortfall in electricity, natural gas, water, and sewer in FY24 through June 30, 2024. MOTION ADOPTED.

MISCELLANEOUS:

None

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

Morissa Henn, Deputy Commissioner, Nathan White, Chief Financial Officer, and Henry Lipman, Director, Division of Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services responded to Committee questions pertaining to; FIS 24-226 Department of Health and Human Services – Operating Statistics Dashboard SFY24 report through April 30, 2024, with the exception of data for the Division for Children, Youth and Families staffing, and Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Caseloads, which is through March 31, 2024, and further data for the Developmental Disabilities, Acquired Brain Disorders, and In-Home Supports waitlist through June 30, 2023.

Representative Edwards requested the Department include a data table relative to Hampstead Hospital.

The informational items were accepted and placed on file.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

The Chair scheduled a tentative meeting of the Fiscal Committee for Friday, August 16, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. to be held in the State House, Room 100, and also scheduled a regular meeting for Friday, September 13, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. to be held in the State House, Room 100.

On a motion by Representative Erf, seconded by Senator Lang, that the meeting adjourn.
(Whereupon the meeting adjourned at 11:42a.m.)



Representative Keith Erf, Clerk