

FISCAL COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL COURT
MINUTES
September 13, 2024

The Fiscal Committee of the General Court met on Friday, September 13, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. Room 210-211 of the Legislative Office Building.

Members in attendance were as follows:

Representative Ken Weyler, Chairman
Representative Keith Erf, Clerk
Representative Jess Edwards
Representative Mary Jane Wallner
Representative Peter Leishman
Senator James Gray
Senate President Jeb Bradley
Senator Regina Birdsell
Senator Lou D'Allesandro
Senator Cindy Rosenwald

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:

On a motion by Senator Gray, seconded by Senator D'Allesandro, that the Committee approve the minutes of the August 16, 2024 meeting as written. MOTION ADOPTED. (8-Yes; 1-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 7 Pursuant to ARPA RSA 14:30-a, VI.
FIS 24-281, FIS 24-284

On a motion by Senator D'Allesandro, seconded by Senator Birdsell, that the Committee approve all the remaining requests as submitted under the Consent Calendar, Tabs 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7. MOTION ADOPTED. (9-Yes; 0-No) [TAB 3 pursuant to RSA 9:16-a, II., FIS 24-276 Department

of Military Affairs and Veterans Services – authorization to transfer \$210,210 in federal funds through June 30, 2025, FIS 24-277 New Hampshire Veterans Home – authorization to add class 042, Post Retirement Benefits and to transfer \$416,464 in General/Federal/Other funds between expenditure classes through June 30, 2025, FIS 24-299 Department of Administrative Services – authorization to transfer \$3,500 in other funds between classes and create new expenditure Class 103-Contracts for Op Services through June 30, 2025, FIS 24-300 Department of Natural and Cultural Resources – authorization to; 1) establish a new accounting unit and transfer \$40,000 in other funds between accounting units to establish appropriations through June 30, 2025, and FIS 24-302 Prescription Drug Affordability Board – authorization to transfer \$8,404 in general funds between various class lines and to create new expenditure class codes through June 30, 2025; TAB 4 pursuant to RSA 9:16-a and RSA 14:30-a, VI., FIS 24-304 Department of Administrative Services – authorization through June 30, 2025 to; 1) transfer \$210,303 in other funds between accounting units and create new expenditure class codes, and 2) accept \$269,721 in other funds; TAB 5 pursuant to RSA 14:30-a, VI., FIS 24-278 Department of Health and Human Services – authorization to accept and expend \$738,192 in federal funds through June 30, 2025, FIS 24-279 Department of Health and Human Services – authorization to accept and expend \$139,445 in federal funds through June 30, 2025, FIS 24-280 Department of Health and Human Services – authorization to accept and expend \$457,958 in federal funds through June 30, 2025, FIS 24-282 Department of Health and Human Services – authorization to accept and expend \$220,227 in federal funds through June 30, 2025, FIS 24-283 Department of Health and Human Services – authorization to accept and expend \$131,064 in federal funds through June 30, 2025, FIS 24-296 Department of Military Affairs and Veterans Services – authorization to accept and expend \$135,668 in federal funds through June 30, 2025, FIS 24-309 Department of Natural and Cultural Resources – authorization to accept and expend \$33,725 in federal funds through June 30, 2025; TAB 6 pursuant to RSA 14:30-a, VI. and RSA 9:16-c, I., FIS 24-287 Department of Safety – authorization through June 30, 2025 to; 1) accept and expend \$1,383,893 in federal funds, and 2) transfer \$3,090,976 in federal funds in and among classes within an accounting unit; and TAB 7 pursuant to ARPA RSA 14:30-a, VI., FIS 24-285 Department of Safety – authorization to amend FIS 24-045, approved February 16, 2024, by extending the end date from September 30, 2024 to June 30, 2025, FIS 24-286 Department of Safety – authorization to; 1) amend FIS 24-046, approved February 16, 2024, by extending the end date from September 30, 2024 to June 30, 2025, and 2) amend FIS 24-097, approved March 15, 2024, by extending the end date from September 30, 2024 to June 30, 2025, FIS 24-297 Department of Environmental Services – authorization to amend FIS 21-138, approved June 8, 2021 with subsequent action on (FIS 22-111) March 18, 2022, (FIS 23-166) May 19, 2023, (FIS 23-287) October 19, 2023, (FIS 24-185) on May 15, 2024, and (FIS 24-182) on May 17, 2024, by transferring \$170,701 in federal funds between class lines through June 30, 2025, FIS 24-305 Department of Agriculture, Markets and Food – authorization to accept and expend \$2,441,952 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) through June 30, 2025, FIS 24-306 Department of Agriculture, Markets and Food – authorization to accept and expend \$587,282 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) through June 30, 2025, FIS 24-307 Department of Agriculture, Markets and Food – authorization to accept and expend \$228,410 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) through June 30, 2025, FIS 24-308 Department of Agriculture, Markets and Food – authorization to amend FIS 24-088, approved April 19, 2024, by extending the end date from September 30, 2024 to June 30, 2025 [originally approved (FIS 22-405) on November 18, 2022, with subsequent approval (FIS 23-166) May 19, 2023], FIS 24-310 Governor’s Office for Emergency Relief And Recovery – authorization to accept and expend \$600,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) through June 30, 2025, and FIS 24-311 New Hampshire State Commission on Aging – authorization to

amend FIS 24-095, approved March 15, 2024, by extending the end date from September 30, 2024 to June 30, 2025]

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

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN 2021
CONSENT CALENDAR

Senator Bradley joined the meeting at 10:02 a.m:

FIS 24-281 Department of Health and Human Services – Nathan White, Chief Financial Officer, Department of Health and Human Services responded to questions of the Committee.

Representative Erf requested an analysis of the trend, and further requested a copy of the Farnham Center contract when available.

On a motion by Senator D'Allesandro, seconded by Representative Erf, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Health and Human Services to amend FIS 24-092, FIS 24-093 and FIS 24-094, approved March 15, 2024, by extending the end dates from September 30, 2024 to June 30, 2025. MOTION ADOPTED.

FIS 24-284 Department of Health and Human Services – Nathan White, Chief Financial Officer, Department of Health and Human Services responded to questions of the Committee.

Representative Erf requested how much of the funding has been expended and how much is left, which the Department will provide to him.

On a motion by Representative Erf, seconded by Senator Bradley, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Health and Human Services to retroactively amend FIS 21-169, approved June 18, 2021, with subsequent action on (FIS 22-230) June 17, 2022, (FIS 23-106) March 24, 2023, and (FIS 23-166) May 19, 2023, by extending the end date from June 30, 2024 to June 30, 2025. MOTION ADOPTED.

RSA 7:12 ASSISTANTS:

REGULAR CALENDAR

FIS 24-288 Department of Justice – On a motion by Representative Leishman, seconded by Senator Bradley, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Justice to accept and expend a sum not to exceed \$6,676,902 in general litigation expenses incurred in the defense of the State and the prosecution of criminal laws through June 30, 2025. MOTION ADOPTED.

RSA 9:16-a, TRANSFERS AUTHORIZED, AND RSA 9:17-a, III, LIMITATIONS:

REGULAR CALENDAR

FIS 24-303 Department of Health and Human Services – Nathan White, Chief Financial Officer, Department of Health and Human Services responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Senator Bradley, seconded by Senator D’Allesandro, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Health and Human Services to transfer \$4,613,102 in general/other funds and to create new expenditure class codes through June 30, 2025. MOTION ADOPTED.

RSA 216-A:3-g, FEES FOR PARK SYSTEM:

REGULAR CALENDAR

FIS 24-301 Department of Natural and Cultural Resources – Sarah Stewart, Commissioner, and Jace Wirth, General Manger, Franconia Notch State Park and Cannon Mountain Ski Area, Department of Natural and Cultural Resources responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Senator Bradley, seconded by Senator D’Allesandro, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources for approval of the fee package (on day tickets) for the marquee Winter 2024/25 and Summer 2025 seasons for products at Cannon Mountain Aerial Tramway & Ski Area, in addition to Flume Gorge entry products for Summer 2025. MOTION ADOPTED. (9-Yes; 1-No)

CHAPTER 337:4, LAWS OF 2024, CONTINUATION OF RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION, AND RSA 228:12, TRANSFERS FROM HIGHWAY SURPLUS ACCOUNT:

FIS 24-298 Department of Transportation – On a motion by Senator Bradley, seconded by Senator D’Allesandro, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Transportation to transfer \$3,507,796 in highway funds from the Highway Surplus Account to support the Winter Maintenance Employee Retention Program through June 30, 2025. MOTION ADOPTED.

LATE ITEMS:

Senator Gray stressed that late items should be distributed to the members by no later than noon the Wednesday prior to the meeting date in order to allow the Committee time to research the items in preparation for the meeting.

FIS 24-312 Late Item Department of Agriculture, Markets and Food – On a motion by Senator Bradley, seconded by Senator D’Allesandro, that the Committee approve the request of

the Department of Agriculture, Markets, and Food, pursuant to RSA 14:30-a, VI., to amend FIS 24-038, approved February 16, 2024, by reallocating \$8,201 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) between classes through September 30, 2024. MOTION ADOPTED.

FIS 24-313 Late Item Department of Safety – On a motion by Senator Bradley, seconded by Senator Rosenwald, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Safety, pursuant to RSA 14:30-a, VI., to accept and expend \$1,250,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) through June 30, 2025. MOTION ADOPTED.

FIS 24-314 Late Item Department of Safety – On a motion by Senator Bradley, seconded by Senator D’Allesandro, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Safety, pursuant to RSA 14:30-a, VI., to accept and expend \$1,250,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) through June 30, 2025. MOTION ADOPTED.

FIS 24-315 Late Item Governor’s Office for Emergency Relief And Recovery – On a motion by Senator Bradley, seconded by Senator Rosenwald, that the Committee approve the request of the Governor’s Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery, pursuant to RSA 14:30-a, VI., to accept and expend \$1,961,773 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) through June 30, 2025. MOTION ADOPTED.

FIS 24-316 Late Item Department of Agriculture, Markets and Food – On a motion by Senator Bradley, seconded by Senator Birdsell, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Agriculture, Markets and Food, pursuant to RSA 14:30-a, VI., to accept and expend \$603,650 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) through June 30, 2025. MOTION ADOPTED.

FIS 24-317 Late Item Governor’s Office for Emergency Relief And Recovery – On a motion by Senator Bradley, seconded by Senator Rosenwald, that the Committee approve the request of the Governor’s Office for Emergency Relief And Recovery, pursuant to RSA 14:30-a, VI., to accept and expend \$550,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) through June 30, 2025. MOTION ADOPTED. (9-Yes; 1-Abstained)

FIS 24-318 Late Item Governor’s Office for Emergency Relief And Recovery – Taylor Caswell, Executive Director, Governor’s Office for Emergency Relief And Recovery, and Nathan White, Chief Financial Officer, Department of Health and Human Services responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Senator Bradley, seconded by Senator Birdsell, that the Committee approve the request of the Governor’s Office for Emergency Relief And Recovery, pursuant to RSA 14:30-a, VI., to accept and expend \$910,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) through June 30, 2025. MOTION ADOPTED.

FIS 24-319 Late Item Department of Information Technology – Denis Goulet, Commissioner, Department of Information Technology responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Senator Rosenwald, seconded by Senator D’Allesandro, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Information Technology, pursuant to RSA 14:30-a, VI., to amend FIS 24-208, approved June 20, 2024, to accept and expend an additional \$1,500,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) through June 30, 2025. MOTION ADOPTED.

FIS 24-320 Late Item Governor’s Office for Emergency Relief And Recovery – On a motion by Senator Bradley, seconded by Senator Rosenwald, that the Committee table the request of the Governor’s Office for Emergency Relief And Recovery, pursuant to RSA 14:30-a, VI., to accept and expend \$500,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) through June 30, 2025. MOTION ADOPTED. (7-Yes; 2-No)

FIS 24-321 Late Item Department of Environmental Services – Susan Carlson, Chief Operations Officer, Department of Environmental Services responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Senator Bradley, seconded by Senator Birdsell, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Environmental Services, pursuant to RSA 14:30-a, VI., to accept \$6,109,350 in additional federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) through June 30, 2025. MOTION ADOPTED.

FIS 24-322 Late Item Informational Governor’s Office for Emergency Relief And Recovery – No discussion was held pertaining to the information summarizing unobligated American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) made available from previously approved requests in order to reallocated funding to other projects that will be submitted separately to Fiscal Committee for approval at future meetings, dated September 12, 2024. No Action Required.

FIS 24-323 Late Item New Hampshire Fish and Game Department – On a motion by Senator Bradley, seconded by Senator D’Allesandro, that the Committee approve the request of the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department, pursuant to RSA 14:30-a, VI., to amend FIS 22-153, approved April 15, 2022, with subsequent approval on (FIS 23-166) May 19, 2023, and (FIS24-186) May 17, 2024, by reallocating \$2,271,800 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF)through June 30, 2025. MOTION ADOPTED.

MISCELLANEOUS:

None

INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS:

The informational items were accepted and placed on file.

AUDITS:

State of New Hampshire, State Treasury, Financial Audit Report, For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023 – Christine Young, Director of Audits, and Collin Quinn, Audit Manager, Audit Division, Office of Legislative Budget Assistant, presented the report and responded to questions of the Committee. Monica Mezzapelle, State Treasurer, was present to respond to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Representative Erf, seconded by Representative Edwards, that the audit report be accepted, placed on file and released in the usual manner. MOTION ADOPTED.

On a motion by Representative Erf, seconded by Representative Edwards, to accept, place on file, and release to the public in the usual manner any audits which will be presented at the October and November meetings when available, and have the portable document formats (PDFs) of the audits available prior to the meeting. MOTION ADOPTED.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

The next regular meetings of the Fiscal Committee were scheduled for 10:00 a.m. Friday, October 18, 2024 and Friday, November 15, 2024.

The Committee recognized the passing of Senator David Boutin and extended their sympathies to his family.

On a motion by Senator D'Allesandro, seconded by Senator Rosenwald, that the meeting adjourn. (Whereupon the meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.)



Representative Keith Erf, Clerk