

JOINT LEGISLATIVE FISCAL COMMITTEE

One Granite Place, Concord, NH

Friday, December 19, 2025

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Ken Weyler, Chair
Representative Keith Erf
Representative Maureen Mooney
Representative Mary Jane Wallner
Representative Peter Leishman
Representative Gary Daniels (Alt.)
Representative Gerald Griffin (Alt.)
Senator James Gray
Senator Regina Birdsell
Senator Cindy Rosenwald
Senator Timothy Lang (Alt.)
Senator Patrick Long (Alt.)

(1) Acceptance of Minutes of November 21, 2025, meeting

KENNETH WEYLER, State Representative, Rockingham County, District #14, and Chairman: Good morning. It being ten o'clock, I'll call the Fiscal Committee meeting to order on Friday, December 19th, and recognize that we have two replacements. We have Senator Long sitting in for Senator Watters, and we have Senator Lang sitting in for Senator Carson. Welcome.

All right. First thing on the agenda is acceptance of the minutes of November 21st. Understand there'll be some people that will not be voting because they weren't there.

** JAMES GRAY, State Senator, Senate District #06:

So move.

REGINA BIRDSELL, State Senator, Senate District #19: Second.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Motion and a second to accept the minutes of November 21st. Any further discussion? Seeing none, all those who were in attendance say aye? If any corrections or omissions state them now. If none, they are accepted.

*** {MOTION ADOPTED}

(2) Old Business:

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Okay. Old Business. There is none.

CONSENT CALENDAR

(3) RSA 9:16-a, Transfers Authorized:

(4) RSA 9:16-a, Transfers Authorized and RSA 14:30-a, VI Fiscal Committee Approval Required for Acceptance And Expenditure of Funds Over \$100,000 from any Non-State Source:

(5) RSA 9:16-c, Transfer of Federal Grant Funds:

(6) 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

(7) RSA 14:30-a, VI Fiscal Committee Approval Required For Acceptance and Expenditure of Funds Over

\$100,000 from any Non-State Source:

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Moving on to the Consent Calendar. We have -- Consent Calendar goes from Tabs 3 through 7. We have removed already from the Consent Calendar on Tab 4, FIS 25-299, Department of Health and Human Services. And from Tab 6, 25-295, again, Health and Human Services. Any further to be removed by Committee Member? Seeing none, I'll entertain a motion to adopt the rest of the Consent Calendar.

** SEN. GRAY: So move to adopt the rest of the Consent Calendar.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Motion by Senator Gray, second by Senator Rosenwald. Any further discussion? See none, all in favor say aye? Opposed no? The rest of Consent Calendar is adopted.

*** {MOTION ADOPTED}

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: We'll move now to item FIS 25-299 under Tab 4 and invite the Health and Human Services to come and answer questions. I see Mr. White here. It's the finance officer.

NATHAN WHITE, Chief Financial Officer,
Department of Health and Human Services: Good morning. Nathan White, Chief Financial Officer with the Department of Health and Human Services.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Senator Rosenwald has a question.

CINDY ROSENWALD, State Senator, Senate District #13: I do. Thank you, Mr. Chair. Good morning, Nathan. Hum -- I guess I'm wondering why if we budgeted for 4,182 patients in beds, in nursing homes, and we have 3,600, why there is not some extra appropriation that would allow us to set the nursing home reimbursement rates above a zero percent change, and that leading to some facilities getting actually rate cuts. I just -- it seems like there's pretty much extra money or should be. So if you could explain why there isn't.

MR. WHITE: Sure. Uh -- so just to level set for the Members of the Committee. The item before you, what we're requesting to do is we're requesting to transfer \$2.2 million over to the nursing facilities budget line. That money is available because the Legislature appropriated \$3 million for a long-term care Medicaid eligibility contract, which was approved by G&C on Wednesday. And this is the remaining funds that we're requesting to move into the budget.

The nursing facility rates are set twice annually in accordance with State law. And there's a variety of factors that go into that particular calculation, which is done -- the per diem rate is done for each facility. And it's

based on the reported allowable costs. It's based on utilization. It's based on acuity and a variety -- and a few other factors. And we look at our -- at our complete budget and we look at what we have available. We take all those other factors into account. And then based on that, each facility is given a per diem rate. And in July, what we saw was a 2.4 percent increase -- uh -- in the overall rate. And we also saw some increased spending and utilization.

So as a result of that, and as a result of the new updated cost reports from the facilities, which report the allowable costs, we went back and we calculated that. The overall average rate, if this item were not approved, would be a negative 3.9 percent decrease. This item is approved the overall average rate will be zero. And every time we do this twice a year, sometimes facilities see increases and sometimes they see decreases. Again, it's based on a number of factors that include reported allowable costs and acuity.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Further question.

SEN. ROSENWALD: Thank you. But so what about the difference in the appropriation between when we -- the number of people we thought would be in nursing homes versus the number of people who actually are? Why isn't there -- why isn't there that difference, that delta in the appropriation

that can be put to rates? Is that -- I mean, is budget neutrality being applied here?

MR. WHITE: So, there -- there is a -- a budget adjustment factor by statute that's capped at 28.76%. And that budget adjustment factor has been applied -- uh -- I believe this would be -- uh -- the -- the -- if this item were not approved that would be applied for the fourth -- uh -- consecutive round. Um -- again, we're working within the budget that we have. And based on the reported cost data and utilization trends that we're seeing, this is what we have available.

I think one important component here for folks to remember that this is only the per diem rate. There's other factors at play as well. And then that particular class line, it's -- it's accounting unit 2152, and there is class line on the 504 class line that indicates that any remaining funds must be paid out at the end of the State Fiscal Year.

So if -- if the projections and the assumptions and the calculations are incorrect, and there's excess money available, then that would be paid out at the end of the year regardless. I think that's just an important consideration here.

TIMOTHY LANG, State Senator, Senate District

#02: Mr. Chair.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Senator Lang.

SEN. LANG: Thank you very much. Thanks for taking my question. So, first off, the straight bed counts not the determining factor here, right?

MR. WHITE: Correct.

SEN. LANG: There's all the other associated, you know, type of care and everything and costs. So I just want to be clear on that. And as a follow-up I -- I -- I brought this -- we -- Henry and I have had several conversations about this in the Governor's Office because, again, nursing homes, specifically our county nursing homes, would be affected by this. And so what we're doing here by moving this money over and then using a federal match money to go with that is that, again, we're taking what would have been a 3.9% average, understanding it's not uniform, is an average rate, a reduction that would have affected our nursing homes, and our county taxpayers. And now we're using this money to supplement that to be able to get to an average zero cost, so that they're not affected and then we'll reassess later on.

MR. WHITE: Correct.

SEN. LANG: Thank you.

MR. WHITE: And -- and this is -- and just one

additional component. This would be setting the rate for the next six months. And in July 1, we will reset again based on the new information we have.

SEN. LANG: And that's done statutorily.

MR. WHITE: Correct.

SEN. LANG: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Representative Mooney for a question.

MAUREEN MOONEY, State Representative, Hillsborough County, District #12: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. White, for being here. Looking at Page 1 of this request, second to last paragraph, I just want to verify that date, February 1, 2025. Is that accurate and is it frequent to retroactively make a request?

MR. WHITE: That is incorrect. That is -- should be February 1, 2026.

REP. MOONEY: I appreciate the clarification.

MR. WHITE: I appreciate the question.

REP. MOONEY: Thank you very much.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Good catch.

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SEN. BIRDSELL: Move to approve.

KEITH ERF, State Representative, Hillsborough County, District #28: Senator Birdsell.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Senator Birdsell.

SEN. BIRDSELL: Move to approve.

SEN. LANG: Second.

REP. ERF: Wait, wait. I have a question.

SEN. BIRDSELL: Okay. Sorry.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: All right. Motion and a second to approve, and there's further discussion. Representative Erf.

REP. ERF: So, first, an easy question. If there's more money available, rates would go up?

MR. WHITE: Yes.

REP. ERF: If I gave you \$5 million, could you allocate higher rates, Nathan?

MR. WHITE: Well, yes, because what we would do is we would lower the budget adjustment factor. So if this item is approved, then the budget adjustment factor will be lowered to 25 something percent and change. So if you -- if you added additional funds, if a legislative appropriation were made, say, in a future year, then those -- then those dollars would be applied to the overall sort of pot of money that we'd be drawing from, and we could potentially lower that budget adjustment factor further which would overall increase rates as allowable under existing CMS rules.

REP. ERF: Follow-up.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Further question.

REP. ERF: Okay. Great. So at a recent meeting we -- this budget adjustment factor came up. Could you clarify exactly what that is, and how it's calculated, and why it exists?

MR. WHITE: Sure. So the budget adjustment factor it's set in statute. And it's capped at 28 -- 28.76%. And so what that means is -- um -- when we -- we have a big spreadsheet. And within that spreadsheet we have all the nursing facility rates, and there's many other tabs associated with that. And, essentially, if you say you hit 20% for that budget adjustment factor.

REP. ERF: 20% of what?

MR. WHITE: So -- so it -- it's a factor that's applied to the overall budget. So instead of paying out a hundred dollars, we'd be paying out, if you set it to 20, you'd be paying out \$80, so to speak. So -- so it effectively lowers the overall State obligation. The higher it is, the less money is needed. The lower -- if it's zero percent, then more money's needed.

REP. ERF: Okay. All right. I -- I'll take it offline the rest of it, but that's still not what's going on

there. But then -- so the other question I had is just a functional one, a process one.

Since more money will get you better rates, just out of curiosity why do you have to reapply to CMS? You're essentially doing here putting more money in, why can't you just go ahead and raise the rates effective January 1st?

MR. WHITE: There's a 30-day posting period that's required. And so we've put February 1st as the anticipated date, because we must post the rates for 30 days in advance in accordance with regulations.

REP. ERF: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Representative Leishman for a question.

PETER LEISHMAN, State Representative, Hillsborough County, District #33: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Nice to see you, Mr. White. Uh -- what kind of a reaction have you received from the nursing homes, if any, with your request?

MR. WHITE: I -- I personally have not had any direct conversations. Um -- there may be other members of HHS here that have had conversations.

REP. LEISHMAN: Okay.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Any further questions from the Committee? Seeing none. We have a motion and a second. All

those in favor say aye? Opposed no? That motion is adopted.

*** {MOTION ADOPTED}

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Moving on while you're there to Tab 7 and 295. Going to get help on this one. Tab 6. I'm sorry. Tab 6, item 295. And someone from the Senate have a question on that one. Senator Rosenwald.

SEN. ROSENWALD: Well, we did have some questions. The Department, I think, answered them, but just so that the public is aware. Um -- my understanding is this is -- this amount represents everything we've applied for for this biennium from the Rural Health Transformation Grants, but only for this biennium. And -- um -- is that right?

LORI WEAVER, Commissioner, Department of Health and Human Services: Yes.

SEN. ROSENWALD: Thank you. And if I could follow-up, please.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Follow-up.

SEN. ROSENWALD: Thank you. Just could you talk about the innovative technologies? It's not AI doing healthcare, is it?

COMMISSIONER WEAVER: That's a big question. I'm happy to do my best, and Trish can also jump in if she would like. We have out of the entire grant, obviously, one of

the sections is on technology. It is -- I will tell you at a surface level before turning it over to Tricia that it is not all AI. Um -- it is really about using technology with health to increase access and -- and sustainability for the areas where we don't have it. So there may be some AI; but in terms of electronic technology, we're also talking about electronic medical records as well. Um -- we're talking about back-end office systems, software for facilities that need it to be able to improve their operations. So it isn't all necessary AI. In fact, there would probably be very little getting out of the gate with the AI.

SEN. ROSENWALD: One more if I could. So we're not going to be expecting people trying to contact their doctor's office and getting online with a chatbot.

MS. WEAVER: I would hope not. That is not the aim. I think the aim is to increase accessibility and ease and not eliminate humans but use technology to make access easier and quicker and more efficient. We didn't put in for a chatbot.

SEN. ROSENWALD: Thank you.

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SEN. BIRDSELL: Move to approve.

SEN. LANG: Second.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Senator Birdsell moves to

approve, Senator Lang seconds. Is there further discussion?
You got your light on, Representative Mooney.

REP. MOONEY: Just ready to vote.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Oh, all right. Very good.

See no further discussion. Uh -- motion is to approve
item 25-295. If you're in favor say aye? Opposed say no?
That item is adopted.

*** {MOTION ADOPTED}

(8) RSA 604-A:1-b Additional Funding:

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: We'll move on to Tab 8 in the
Regular Calendar. First up is Judicial Council. Mr. Buckey.

JAY BUCKEY, Executive Director, Judicial.

Council: Good morning. Jay Buckey, Executive Director, New
Hampshire Judicial Council.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: All right. If you will
explain the item a little bit.

MR. BUCKEY: Yes, certainly. This is a
request for funds for contract attorneys. These are attorneys
who provide indigent defense services for criminal cases on a
fixed fee basis. If you recall, I was here most recently --
excuse me -- not most recently; but I've been here asking for
funds for assigned counsel. Assigned counsel take cases on an
hourly basis. These attorneys provide services in the same

type of cases simply on a different fee -- fee structure. So on a fixed fee basis. So they're an economical way for us to take cases when the public defender cannot take cases.

SEN. LANG: Mr. Chair.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Senator Lang.

SEN. LANG: So I -- I guess my question is I want to know what your burn rate is of the cash that we have already allocated for within the budget for your organization. So at what point the money we have will run out before -- before you start to access the new -- the new money we're asking for.

MR. BUCKEY: Thank you for the question. The -- the current funds that were allotted have already been exhausted. So, essentially, we're out of funds -- um -- that were initially allotted. We would be using the new funds immediately.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Follow-up.

SEN. LANG: I'm sorry. I won't follow-up on that. So the money that was allocated just this July has been appropriated to your agency, and I think you came back once before and asked for an additional appropriation since then, haven't you?

MR. BUCKEY: Not on this line. No, Senator.

SEN. LANG: Not on this line.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: That was for involuntary admissions.

SEN. LANG: Yeah, IEA's.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: This is about \$10,000 per the two hundred that are not represented, 10,000 each; is that right?

MR. BUCKEY: Um -- no. It wouldn't be computed that way. The -- the fixed fee -- um -- the fixed fees that come in it's generally about \$900 for a non-incarcerated misdemeanor. Less than \$2,000 for a non-incarcerated felony. So there's currently a list of people who are pending attorneys, but this money isn't just for those people. It will be used for more than just those 200 cases.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: You're expecting more is what you're saying?

MR. BUCKEY: Yes, I'm expecting many more.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Representative Leishman.

REP. LEISHMAN: Thanks, Mr. Chairman. So you say you have about --

SEN. GRAY: The microphone.

REP. LEISHMAN: You said you had about 300 people without counsel at this point that you need this money

for. Is that higher than usual or it certainly doesn't seem sustainable to have so many people that need counsel being under the statute that if they don't get good representation soon their cases could be dismissed or -- so where is this 300? Is that a higher number than normal or average or --

MR. BUCKEY: Um -- so the numbers, you know, obviously it varies day-to-day. The numbers that I'm discussing come from a list that's kept -- um -- through a small group of people who help to assign these cases throughout the state. Um -- so right now I would estimate there's about 150 people who are incarcerated who are awaiting counsel, and about 300 people who are not incarcerated who are looking for counsel. So to answer your question about whether that's more or less, that's more than -- than -- than there have been since I've taken this position.

REP. LEISHMAN: Follow-up.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Follow-up.

REP. LEISHMAN: Do you have a reason why it's higher? Are there more arrests or what's going on?

MR. BUCKEY: Yeah. There's -- there's a few reasons. Um -- one is generally there's a lot of competition for indigent defense attorneys in New England. States neighboring us have been hiring public defenders at a pretty

good clip, and it's taken some attorneys away from the public defender.

Also, the Public Defender's Office is currently closed in a couple different locations because they've exceeded the levels, the caseloads in their contract. So when that happens we have to send more cases to contract attorneys and to assigned counsel. Um -- and just generally the nature of cases has changed a bit as well. Um -- more people are generally being incarcerated which can slow down the process as well as some structural changes in the court system as well.

REP. LEISHMAN: Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Senator Rosenwald for a question.

SEN. ROSENWALD: Actually, I have two questions, if I could. First, could you please tell us which Public Defender Offices are closed to new clients.

MR. BUCKEY: Yes. And I apologize. I just checked before I walked in and I have to -- there're ten of them, and I believe to my -- to the best of my recollection Nashua is currently closed to all except for new clients. Littleton is closed to intake and Newport is closed to intake.

SEN. ROSENWALD: And -- um -- my second question is so we have a hundred individuals without counsel

who are currently incarcerated, I guess, awaiting trial. Know there was a decision out of the 9th Circuit that said all of the individuals in circuit -- in similar circumstances in Oregon had to be released on bail. If we don't appropriate enough money to provide counsel for the incarcerated individuals, do we risk getting sued and ending up in the same place but spending more money because we have to defend?

MR. BUCKEY: I -- I would say certainly under the New Hampshire Constitution and -- and the federal Constitution. But I think most on point for this discussion would be the New Hampshire Constitution there is a right to counsel at State expense if need is shown. Um -- and so certainly providing counsel to incarcerated individuals is the number one priority I have. Um -- so it's certainly a risk and not -- I'll just leave it there.

SEN. ROSENWALD: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Senator Lang.

SEN. LANG: My question is actually for you, Mr. Chair. Um -- so my question is, again, when I do some basic math, even if all 450 people were at the \$900 level that's only a \$400,000 ask to get the current people covered.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: One would think.

SEN. LANG: What's that?

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: One would think.

SEN. LANG: Yeah. So -- so I guess my question having not served very -- only one other time on Fiscal, would it be appropriate to do a lesser amount and let them come back. If the burn rate's faster than they need and let them come? As the revenue guy, I'm a little nervous we're still behind on our projections, a small amount at the end of last month. I think it was .7%. It's only \$6.2 million at the end of last month. This month we'll see what the numbers bring. Um -- but I -- I'm a little nervous about appropriating money that the State doesn't have at a high rate and draw into the Rainy Day Fund further. So I'm wondering if -- if it's appropriate to do a lesser amount to give them to take care of the need they -- immediate need they have, give them a little bit of headroom to deal with maybe some new cases, and then come back before us to ask for an additional appropriation if the -- if to Mr. Leishman's point crime is running away, and we seem to have a problem with all these people being incarcerated.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: And I recall, I think previous month we had 180 that didn't have representation. Now we have 200.

SEN. LANG: 450 it sounds like.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Well, yeah.

SEN. LANG: So I guess my question was would it be appropriate to do --

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: The number keeps growing.

SEN. LANG: -- a million dollars now and let them come back next month if it's necessary, but without biting in too hard into the State's reserves until we know what's going on, we'll have a better sense of revenue next month. Um -- again, I'm -- I'm, knock on wood, I'm hoping the number's going to be in the positive by the end of the year, and we'll have a surplus funds which will make this vote a lot easier.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: If you want to make that as a motion.

** SEN. LANG: I will make a motion we approve a million dollars.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Is there a second?

REP. LEISHMAN: I'll second it.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: A motion and a second to approve a million dollars. All in favor raise your hand. One, two, three, four, five, six. Motion carries. All right. We'll give you a million dollars and you can come back if that's not sufficient.

*** **{MOTION ADOPTED}**

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Thank you. All right.

REP. ERF: Was the vote ten nothing?

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Six to four I think we count.

(9) Miscellaneous:

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Okay. We have an item, item number nine. If you see it before you it's a request approval to accept, place on file, and release to the public in the usual manner the following annual financial reports for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 2025, when they become available. And the list of the items that will be in the motion are the State of New Hampshire Annual Comprehensive Financial Report, the New Hampshire DOT Turnpike System Annual Financial Report, the New Hampshire Lottery Commission Annual Comprehensive Financial Report and the New Hampshire Liquor Commission Annual Comprehensive Financial Report.

** SEN. GRAY: So moved.

SEN. LANG: Second.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Motion and a second to approve item nine. Further discussion? Seeing none. All in favor say aye? Opposed no? That motion carries.

*** **{MOTION ADOPTED}**

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: And that saves us from doing it on every individual report, plus it let's them out a little earlier than they might otherwise be because normally we would

see them first before they're released to the public; but there are lot of people anxious to read them before we may have a meeting.

(10) Informational Materials:

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Okay. Moving on to the Informational Materials. The Committee Member -- any Committee Member wish to have questions on any item? Senator Rosenwald.

SEN. ROSENWALD: Thank you. I have a question on the HHS Dashboard.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Dashboard. Okay. Guess Mr. White will come back to item 294.

SEN. ROSENWALD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So my question is on the Community Mental Health Center caseloads. It's been years that we've been told they were inaccurate and that we would have accurate caseload numbers by last September 2024. This time there is a chart that is just -- um -- total users. And my question is why -- why has the Department stopped splitting out adults and children?

MR. WHITE: Sure. So -- um -- Katja is joining me here. And -- and we received that question in advance and we appreciate that. Um -- essentially, this is the first iteration. And we can certainly take that back and break that out so that we can display that in a similar fashion that we

used to. This, obviously, looks a little different. There were a lot of people involved in getting this updated -- um -- but we can certainly do that in the future.

SEN. ROSENWALD: That would be great. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Further questions on the Dashboard? Representative Wallner.

MARY JANE WALLNER, State Representative, Merrimack County, District #19: Yes, thank you. So this week I've been reading in the newspaper about the information you provided to, I think, the Executive Council about the -- um -- reductions to meet the back of the budget. And I was wondering if there was a way that you could include in the Dashboard those statistics, those -- that information to the Fiscal Committee monthly?

MR. WHITE: Sure. Yeah. We -- yeah, absolutely. We -- we can take that back and figure out a way to put together something that's a little bit more meaningful but not too detailed. Um -- we -- we've been adding some language in the -- in the Dashboard each month just to give a broad overview; but we can certainly provide additional detail if the Committee requests it.

REP. WALLNER: Great. If the Committee would

want to --

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: I think we support that. It helps us all to get a little better idea so we're not surprised at the end of the fiscal year, so.

REP. WALLNER: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Okay. Anything else on the Dashboard that any Committee Member wishes to discuss? Okay. Anything else? Senator Gray.

SEN. GRAY: Um -- I just wanted to talk about DRA. That's part of the budget, part of the money that's coming in. Uh -- I did have a discussion with the Commissioner. We put in the budget that we would have the ability to hire two more auditors.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Yep.

SEN. GRAY: We did get that waived from the hiring freeze so that there is the ability to do it. But the -- uh -- Commissioner has not been able to hire anybody due to ongoing things. Um -- the other thing that's important there is the amnesty.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Yep.

SEN. GRAY: And that they are starting into that. Things look good. Hopefully, we'll get some more detailed information. Um -- just any numbers that you

hear take them with a grain of salt. Because, remember, that we did put part of those savings into the budget. And because there are multiple places where we put that money in, you have to make sure that the number that they're giving you is -- um -- that those other sources have been taken out of that number so that you're looking at what the actual higher amount is going to be.

It does look like it will be higher from what I'm hearing; but, again, you've got to make sure all --

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Right.

SEN. GRAY: -- those little pieces that we put into the budget are taken out of that number so that you have the real number and not an inflated one. Okay. So that's important to understand --

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Yes.

SEN. GRAY: -- as we go forward.

SEN. LANG: Mr. Chair.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Senator Lang.

SEN. LANG: So, again, on that topic. In previous years that number, you know, this -- we've done this a couple times -- um -- and on average I think we're around 15 million was the estimated people who pay for the -- pay that -- use that program to be able to pay the amnesty. They still pay the interest, they don't pay the penalty, and we get our tax

revenue. Um -- we only budgeted in the budget \$5 million this year, because we weren't sure with the new RIM system what that was going to look like. So that -- that program is running now through February, I believe. There's a three-month window that started December that will run through February. But we -- the revenue number for gross receipts that were just due to the -- um -- amnesty program was \$5 million.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Very good. I think it will be more.

SEN. LANG: I do, too.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Senator Rosenwald.

SEN. ROSENWALD: Yes. I have some questions about the YDC report. I don't see the Attorney General.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Is there anybody here?

SEN. GRAY: If there's more people than we can sit you at -- at the table. Yeah. And you need a red light for your mic to be on.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Senator Rosenwald for a question on the YDC group.

SEN. ROSENWALD: Could -- could these individuals please introduce themselves.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Yes.

LAURA RAYMOND, Assistant Attorney General,

Department of Justice: Good morning. I'm Laura Raymond, Assistant Attorney General, and I work on the YDC Claims Fund.

SEN. ROSENWALD: Okay.

JACKIE CURRAN-STUART, YDC Senior Investigative Paralegal, YDC Claims Administration, Department of Administrative Services: Hi. My name is Jackie Curran-Stuart. I'm a Senior Paralegal at the YDC Claims Administration.

TOM KAEMPFER, Deputy Director, Division of Administration, Attorney General's Office, Department of Justice: I'm Tom Kaempfer. I'm the Deputy Director of Administration at the Attorney General's Office overseeing the claim fund.

SEN. ROSENWALD: Great. Thank you. So my first question is where are we on getting a new claims administrator? And I ask this because I see only five cases were settled in October and November. And the July, August, September number of settlements fell off pretty sharply, too.

MS. RAYMOND: So we are currently in pending litigation with respect to that question.

SEN. ROSENWALD: Could you get closer to the microphone?

MS. RAYMOND: Yes, sorry. Is that okay? So,

we're currently in the midst of pending litigation with respect to that question. So I'm a bit -- I am limited in what I can say in response. Um -- I do know that conversations are continuing to take place with respect to identifying someone for that role. I don't have -- um -- further information that I can provide at this time, unfortunately. I will note that we are, however, continuing to resolve cases where we can.

SEN. ROSENWALD: Thank you. Could I follow-up? Thank you. So -- um -- on Page 5. Um -- the Attorney General's cost to the fund, I think it's administrative costs, is \$6.9 million. Could you explain what that is composed of?

MS. RAYMOND: Of course. This maybe -- um -- so -- uh -- that fund -- those administrative funds are largely payments to our counsel, which is the law firm of Verill Dana. We have engaged them for years to assist us with processing claims.

Since we are in a period of, you know, waiting -- um -- for a new claims administrator to be appointed before claims activity -- um -- fires back up to the previous level it was at, we're currently, you know, not incurring new expenditures with them. Um -- but that has not stopped us from continuing to process claims internally using the resources we have internally and -- um -- continuing to work on claims where

we can without having to use that outside counsel and incur those expenses at this time.

SEN. ROSENWALD: Thank you. So it's about 10% of the amount of money that the Attorney General has settled. So I guess my final question is we've committed to 237 million, almost \$238 million of payments over the next period of years for the 419 cases that have been settled; but we've only appropriated, I think, 185 million. Um -- so that's a \$50 million discrepancy. What is the Agency's plan for asking the Legislature for at least that amount of money?

MS. RAYMOND: Sure. I can certainly speak to that on behalf of the Attorney General's Office as the fund administrator. If Jackie wants to add anything from the Claims Administrator's Office perspective as well, certainly allow her to do that.

So the entire -- um -- idea of allowing these installment payments over time for claims was so that we can go forward and request future appropriations for those outstanding amounts without having to -- without needing to incur the entire amount owed in the budget in any given fiscal year. So like you mentioned, there has been, I want to say, it's 165 million appropriated to the fund to date so far. Um and this amount, this 237 million and change that's on Page 7

of the report, that is owed over up to ten years. And we do have a breakdown available if you would like of the exact amount that will be owed in each fiscal year up to ten fiscal years from now.

We are -- um -- well within the current budget for all of the payments that are going to be owed in this fiscal year with what is currently appropriated. And as future fiscal years come up to the extent that there is some sort of shortfall, we will absolutely be, you know, requesting those funds from Joint Fiscal or in a budgetary item as needed.

SEN. ROSENWALD: Just one more, if I could? Do you have a cushion for what is appropriated? And I thought it was 185 because we put 20 more million dollars in House Bill 2. But I'm not always right on math. Do you have enough money to continue to settle cases in Fiscal Year '27?

MS. RAYMOND: I'll -- I'll -- I think Tom maybe can jump in here, too. And I apologize. You were right, Senator Rosenwald. It is 185. I forgot about the 20 million in HB 2. So I apologize for that.

SEN. ROSENWALD: {Inaudible}.

MS. RAYMOND: No, no, you're very accurate. I -- I believe the answer to that question is very much yes.

MR. KAEMPFER: Yes, we have approximately about

\$10 million as a buffer to get this through the rest of the fiscal year if we were to continue to settle some cases and pay everything that's due this year.

SEN. ROSENWALD: The rest of the next fiscal year.

MR. KAEMPFER: Correct.

SEN. ROSENWALD: Next fiscal year.

MR. KEMP: Next fiscal year is a different question, right. So that 10 million if we don't settle anything between now and the end of the year will obviously roll forward into the next fiscal year. So it's very dependent on what happens between now and the end of the fiscal year.

SEN. ROSENWALD: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Senator Lang and then Senator Gray.

SEN. LANG: So, again, to be clear, while our exposure is 237 million, the yearly exposure is much, much less than that. And because of the fact we have a structured claims settlement that's going to be going out over multiple years, and so you'll be coming back in front of Finance each year for what the differential is necessary to -- to manage that ten year plan. We may -- we may be fine for quite a few years, we may not. But it depends on how the balance of the

claims settle out and whether they're one-time payment or structured payments and that kind of thing. Is that accurate?

MR. KAEMPFER: Yes.

SEN. LANG: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Senator Gray.

SEN. GRAY: It should also be noted that the budget also has the money from the sale of the YDC property going back into the fund to help settle those claims. Certainly, the Senate Finance Committee will be keeping an eye on that making sure things are gone, you know, done and -- and are going properly. Uh -- and I know that I will work with Senator Rosenwald and others to make sure that if that sale does not go through that -- that we do take some appropriate action based on the other revenues that come in, so.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: I guess I had a false assumption on my part when the Attorney General came before us and said I think I need \$100 million. My assumption was he's got a lot of convictions. Turns out he didn't have any. Now we're getting a couple along the way. I think we're putting the cart before the horse. We should have had a list of convictions with names before we even started this program to give away money. We're giving away money on people's stories without any really the -- I'm hearing from the corrections

officers saying they're all lying. That none of these things happened. And that's when the ones that have gone to court, obviously, the -- the jury didn't find this long list of things credible. It's like they had to give them one -- one just to make sure in case they did something wrong, which doesn't make a lot of sense. And I'm reluctant to put more money into this until we see a list of convictions.

Now, when you interview the people, any of you involved in interviewing the people?

MS. RAYMOND: Could you clarify by who you mean by the people?

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: The people who come making claims.

MS. RAYMOND: I individually personally am not.

MS. CURRAN-STUART: Um -- the people that were previously involved we do have -- um -- some of our consultants still on staff that were involved. But primarily it was -- um -- Administrator Broderick before -- um -- the position is now vacant. So right now we're not hosting hearings. Um -- I was not personally involved in those hearings. I did work around them. But right now there's -- um -- it would be the administrator primarily.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: What my question would be,

were names named by the victims? Were they naming someone and were the names given to the Attorney General?

SEN. LANG: Mr. Chair, you mean the perpetrators; correct?

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: The perpetrators. If the perpetrators have been named, were those names written down and given to the Attorney General?

MS. RAYMOND: Yes. So the -- in all claims, the Attorney General's Office receives a full copy of the claim and we are -- um -- present for the interviews or -- or hearings of the claimants that take place. We don't actually conduct them, but we are listening in.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Again, my fear is we're going forward with incomplete information and giving out money on just one person's side.

SEN. LANG: Mr. Chair. So, again, with the list of the perpetrators that you're getting relative to the claim settlement as the Attorney General were appropriate -- uh -- pursuing criminal charges.

MS. RAYMOND: So it's written into the statute in RSA 21-M:11-a that participation in a criminal investigation is not required to participate in the claims funds. There are situations, I have been part of, that have arisen where

throughout the claim fund process -- uh -- someone did identify somebody that they alleged abused them and reported that to the police as part of the process. And -- and I'm not privy to sort of what happens after that. But I do know that we have been part of some, you know, referring some of claimants' allegations to the police, but they're not required to do so to participate by statute.

SEN. LANG: There are some. Some perpetrators are moving forward and getting criminal prosecution or should have criminal prosecutions. Whether they're successful or not I'm not saying, but there should be some coming out of this process, correct?

MS. RAYMOND: I can't quite answer that. I'm not sure. I help with, you know, referring and sort of making the referral to the police. I'm not privy in any way to what happens with any criminal investigations.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Senator Gray.

SEN. GRAY: I'm certainly not comfortable with where this conversation is going. I think that this conversation that if certain members of the Committee have problems with what's going on, that we should schedule a meeting with the Attorney General's Office that would be non-public. If the whole Committee participates or if -- uh --

less than a quorum participates, it could just be a meeting with the Attorney General. But I think that we need to drop this at this point and take it up in another venue.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Representative Leishman, did you want to add anything?

REP. LEISHMAN: I'm all set.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Any other committee want to comment?

REP. MOONEY: {Inaudible}.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Representative Mooney.

REP. MOONEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you all for being here. I figure I ask you this while you're here and if it's an answer you can't give me, that's fine. Or if it's something we should take offline, that's fine, too.

The filing period to file a claim was two and a half years. Claims were being settled before the deadline to file a claim. Where is the authority to have filed those claims before the deadline came about? In other words, as opposed to figuring out and settling claims after the two and a half year deadline to see what came in, what the totals were, what the severity of the cases were and the priority of the cases. So my question, again, is what authority was used to

settle cases prior to the two and a half year deadline coming to a close? Thank you.

MS. RAYMOND: Yeah. So in statute in 21-M:11-a there is -- I -- I forget the Roman numeral -- um -- I want to say it's eight or nine -- um -- one of the paragraphs under there says that the claimant and the Attorney General's Office may engage in settlement discussions at any time and reach -- um -- any -- any settlement that the parties fully agree on at any time.

REP. MOONEY: Thank you. If you could forward that exact location, that would be great. Thank you very much.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Okay.

MS. CURRAN-STUART: There's -- um -- I just wanted to add one thing. There's also in the claims process in statute there's some time requirements that were laid out -- um -- that required certain processing of claims and progression. So -- um -- any of our processing of claims has followed that claims process and any deadlines in the statutes and as it's been amended we've adjusted.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: All right. Uh -- at the Vice-Chairman's suggestion I will try to arrange a meeting with the Attorney General with this Committee for those of us that are interested in knowing how the process was set up. So I'll plan

for that.

Is there anything else before we come to the audits -- audit. All right. I guess we're ready to proceed with the audit presentation. Police Standards and Training.

Audits:

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: {Inaudible}.

SEN. GRAY: {Inaudible} right.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: This is the third and this is the fourth. Sometimes {Inaudible}. Morning, Miss Young.

CHRISTINE YOUNG, Director, Audit Division, Office of Legislative Budget Assistant: Okay. Good morning, Mr. Chairman, and Committee Members. For the record, I'm Christine Young, Director of Audits for the LBA. We're here to present the financial audit report of the Police Standards and Training Council for the nine months ended March 31, 2025. Thomas Ward is a Financial Audit Manager in our office. He was the in-charge manager on this audit, and he will present the report. And also joining us from the Police Standards and Training Council is Director John Scippa, Assistant Director Mark O'Brien, and Jessica Nichols. And she is the Financial Operations Manager. And, with that, I'll turn it over to Tom for the presentation of the report.

THOMAS WARD, Audit Manager, Audit Division,

Office of Legislative Budget Assistant: Thank you. Good morning, Mr. Chairman, and Members of the Committee. For the record, my name is Thomas Ward. I'm pleased to be here today to present the report on our financial audit of the Police Standards and Training Council for the nine months ended March 31st, 2025. I'd like to note this is my first time presenting before the Committee, and I appreciate the opportunity to do so.

The report is presented in two sections. The first section is the Management Letter section prepared by auditors, and it contains our report on internal control and compliance along with nine audit Observations, which is followed by the current status of prior audit findings.

The second section is the financial section which contains our independent auditor's report followed by the Agency prepared financial statement and notes.

The focus of my presentation today will be on the Observations and Recommendations.

If you turn to the Table of Contents, you will see five Internal Control Observations, none of which are considered material weaknesses, and four State Compliance Observations.

Turning to Page 3 of the report, you will see

that we've included a table to summarize the recommendations. The PSTC fully concurred with seven of the Recommendations and concurred, in part, with two of the Recommendations. As noted here, no legislative action is required for any of the recommendations.

We also requested and received responses from the Department of Administrative Services, which fully concurred with one recommendation and concurred, in part, with another, and the Department of Justice, which concurred, in part, with one Recommendation.

The Observations begin on Page 5. Observation 1 recommends the PSTC strengthen its supervisor review and approval control over employee timekeeping.

Observation 2 recommends the PSTC revise its current risk management program to incorporate a formal comprehensive risk assessment process for financial accounting, reporting and compliance activities.

Observation 3 recommends the PSTC establish and keep current continuity of operations and disaster recovery plans to minimize business interruptions in the event of an unforeseen occurrence. Together these plans are important to help prepare for, respond to, and recover from an unexpected disruption.

Observation 4 recommends the PSTC strengthen and formalize the process for reviewing user access permissions in NHFirst to ensure the process is thorough and conducted every six months in accordance with the Department of Information Technology policy.

We've also recommended the Department of Administrative Services review the NHFirst elevated access report and determine if it is sufficiently complete and reliable for agencies to continue to use in performing the required review of user access permissions pursuant to the DoIT policy.

Observation 5 recommends the PSTC review its NHFirst accounting structure and work with the Department of Administrative Services to deactivate all unused accounting units.

The State Compliance Observations begin on Page 12. Observation 6 recommends the PSTC comply with the Department of Administrative Services Manual of Procedures and establish a Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Justice with approval from Governor and Council for criminal justice, education, and training services received.

Observation 7 recommends the PSTC establish procedures to ensure that all required filers submit a

statement of financial interest. We also noted an organizational chart of required filers should be filed in accordance with statute.

Observation 8 recommends the PSTC adopt required administrative rules in a timely manner to ensure compliance with RSA 541-A, the Administrative Procedures Act. And, lastly, Observation 9 recommends the PSTC involve the Department of Justice and procurements pursuant to statute and pursuant to established DOJ criteria.

We've also recommended the PSTC discontinue the review and approval of its own contracts on behalf of the Department of Justice and review statutory requirements in conjunction with the Department of Justice to ensure compliance with delegation of authority.

On Page 17 is the current status of Observations contained in the financial audit report of the PSTC for the six months ended December 31, 2010, and applicable Observations from the performance audit report of the PSTC dated February 2019. As noted on Page 19, seven Observations are fully resolved, one Observation is in the process of being resolved, and four Observations remain unresolved.

The financial section of the report follows

with our auditor's opinion, which was modified as a complete set of financial statements was not presented.

On Page 7 is the statement of revenues and expenditures, general fund, and capital projects fund, and the notes to the financial statement begin on Page 8.

I want to briefly touch on some auditor communications that were required by auditing standards to inform you about. The significant accounting policies used by the PSTC are described in Note 1, and we are satisfied with the qualitative aspect of Management's accounting practices, including policies and financial disclosures. We noted no significant unusual transactions. There were no changes to our risk assessment or our planned audit strategy. However, there's always a risk of Management override of controls in every financial audit we do. We did not identify any instances of control overrides during the audit. We had no disagreements with Management on financial accounting and reporting matters that would have caused us to change our opinion if they had not been satisfactorily resolved. We noted no related party transactions. No significant difficulties or contentious matters were encountered. To our knowledge, the PSTC did not consult with any other independent auditors about financial related matters during the audit. And, finally, I would like

to note we did not propose any material audit adjustments to the PSTC's financial statement.

As a result of our work, there were no significant uncorrected misstatements that would require a separate letter to communicate to you.

This concludes my presentation. I would like to thank the Police Standards and Training Council for their cooperation and assistance we received during the audit. The Director and his Staff were very responsive to our requests and comments. We'd be happy to answer any questions the Committee may have.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Director Scippa, any comments?

JOHN SCIPPA, Director, Police Standards and Training Council: The only comment that I would like to make is I would like to recognize the members of the PSTC staff that worked directly with this audit team. Uh -- they -- they did a lot of work collectively to help move the process forward. And -- uh -- we certainly will take every bit of guidance that is a result of this report and -- and work towards those corrections.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Congratulations on being back to one job.

MR. SCIPPA: Thank you, sir.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Questions from the Committee Members? Representative -- Senator Gray.

SEN. GRAY: Close enough, close enough.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Senator Gray.

SEN. GRAY: All right. I always look back at the unresolved items. There's two from '10 and there's two from '19. Okay. We either need to do a different thing with these or get them resolved. All right. Unused accounting items, I went and talked to Mr. Kane, and Mr. Kane tells me that there's -- there's some things that are going on right now that may resolve them. I guess the -- the community that I come from unresolved items are reviewed and then reissued as new items in the next report so that they can be modified so that we can actually get to a situation where both the Department and the auditors agree that we are getting to a path. And, you know -- uh -- 15 years for those two items for '10 and then six years for the ones from '19 is too long. It -- it -- you either need to say, well, no, we're going to do something different or we are going to do what these are. And so this both for you and for Mr. Kane and for whomever that needs to resolve these items, they need to be taken care of. Either modified such that they go away or actually do what the auditors ask for. Thank you.

SEN. LANG: Mr Chair.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Senator Lang.

SEN. LANG: I will say I serve on the Joint Performance Audit and Oversight Committee. And previously the oversight we didn't exercise a whole lot of oversight. Um -- and we've taken up a new path in that Committee now where we bring previous audits in -- people who are audited and haven't completed the items and bringing them in and holding them account for the items that are unfinished. However, I will just say that's only been going on for six months maybe. So we've gone through a bunch of agencies, OPLC, Department of Health and Human Services, we've had Liquor come in. So we are starting to exercise the oversight of that part of it and bringing people in to task on agency heads. And some of -- some of this is in John's case 2010. I'm not sure he was there, right? So some of this he's inheriting some historical stuff that he may or may not even been aware of when he took the job. And that's part of the oversight we're doing in that Committee is to make them aware you've got to resolve this, and give us a date. We literally hold them to a timeline as well to resolve the open items. So just for what that's worth for this Committee.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Representative Leishman.

REP. LEISHMAN: Thanks, Mr. Chairman. I also share Senator Gray's concern when I see things that are well past being reviewed. Just curious on the financial disclosure part. That was one of the items that was highlighted that financial disclosures were not being provided. Any reason why people are hesitant to supply financial disclosures or --

MR. SCIPPA: The -- um -- the short answer is that we did not -- I did not do a good job of making sure that those folks that work for Police Standards and Training and then those folks that are assigned, appointed by the Governor to two specific councils or committees that act under the umbrella of Police Standards and Training had completed those documents. Some of the folks that sit on those committees have or on the Council have been there for quite some time. And, you know, candidly, and I'll take full responsibility, we just did not -- I did not do a good job of making sure that this was done annually. Uh -- and we have since receiving this report, we have now built in a process by which we will make sure that in the first month of every year -- uh -- they will when the Committee forms or the Council sits the very first order of business will be to complete those forms right then and there, and then we can get those filed with the Secretary of State.

REP. LEISHMAN: Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: So one of the things I noted looking at revenues, restricted revenues, and it's not very well explained where the revenues are coming from and why. And one of the things we noted doing the last budget where there are -- there are fees charged, the agencies have gone decades without an increase to the fee, which doesn't make a lot of sense when it's part of your revenue, and it's some savings to the general fund. So any idea what the -- what the -- what the fees are for the Agency income and how long ago since they were increased?

MR. SCIPPA: I -- I will candidly tell you that I rely on other folks to -- uh -- interpret some of these spreadsheets. Uh -- I cannot think off the top of my head where our Agency is drawing any specific revenue outside of any grants that we go through the process of and get awarded. Certainly, those grants would have to come through this body and then through the Governor and Council. I'm just not aware of any revenue source other than the general fund and through the appropriation process where we would be drawing funds.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Just a thought. Do the police departments pay when they send a candidate to the

school?

MR. SCIPPA: They do not, sir.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: So you don't know where -- you think all these incomes come from grants.

MR. SCIPPA: I don't -- do you have any -- any specific insight?

JESSICA NICHOLS, Financial Operations Officer, Police Standards and Training Council: We're strictly -- Jessica Nichols. We're strictly funded through general funds.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Well, you do sow some agency income and some federal revenues that are, you know, obviously the -- the majority is general funds.

MR. SCIPPA: Did you --

SEN. GRAY: Just a clarification on the communities paying for this. I believe that there is a long-standing agreement that the State will pay for the cost of the course, but the towns and communities will pay for the individual's salary or whatever it is that happens at that time, so that it was a joint decision; correct me if I'm wrong.

MR. SCIPPA: You are 100% accurate, sir. That -- that's -- uh -- that's how our Academy is delivered. And to speak to the Chair's observation, the Agency income that is

reflected in this spreadsheet after speaking with the folks from auditing, that 120,000 is a pass-through. Uh -- that money is money that is pulled from the Asset Forfeiture Fund from DOJ, and then we literally use that fund to then reimburse towns and cities for they're reflecting that pass-through from DOJ to us.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Now that you mentioned it, it does sound familiar, yes. So one of the -- one of my thoughts was that -- um -- after a person graduates, gets a badge, is there any follow-up by the school within the first year? Is there some subject we should have emphasized more? Is there something you felt we're a little short in training? Do you do any of that sort of thing?

MR. SCIPPA: Thank you for that question, sir. As a matter of fact, we literally are in the final stages of completing a full job task analysis -- uh - that -- uh -- part of that analysis was to survey recently graduated police officers. On top of that, we also surveyed those field training officers that were assigned to receive the new officer once they graduated. And then, certainly, we also talked to the Chiefs as well to garner that very information. Uh -- you know, are we -- are we falling short somewhere? Are we spending too much time on a topic that maybe we shouldn't? We

-- we have collected that data.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Good.

MR. SCIPPA: And now we're working with subject matter expert groups throughout the law enforcement community to refine and revise the curriculum for the Police Academy.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: On the -- uh -- the standards part, do you have -- many times you reviewing an officer because I hear complaints of overbearing from some officers, you know. I can take away all your work. I can take away your house and all this kind of thing.

MR. SCIPPA: Hm-hum.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Do they come before this standards group?

MR. SCIPPA: Thank you, sir, for that. We -- uh -- absolutely. Under our umbrella is the Conduct Review Committee.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Good.

MR. SCIPPA: And they -- uh -- oversee the investigations of any allegation of police misconduct across the state.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Very good. Well, considering all the things we look at in most of the audits this is not too serious. And I know we've emphasized some of the things that

we'd like to see happen, and I know you'll take care of them. So, and I'm delighted that we don't have to do any legislative administration here, because I'm the only one that ever does it. So thank you. Anything further from the Committee? Do we need to have the motion to put it on file? It is on file. Thank you very much, and congratulations.

MR. SCIPPA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Thank you, body.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Mr. Ward, is this your first time you've been in charge of one?

MR. WARD: Yes, sir.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Very thorough. Thank you.

MR. WARD: Thank you, sir.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: All right. Next meeting we're looking at suggested by Mr. Kane either the 16th or the 23rd. Senator Gray likes the 23rd.

SEN. GRAY: I have a whole bunch of things going on on the 16th for other committees and -- and things. So the 23rd is much preferred on my schedule.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Okay. On the House side, anybody got a strong feeling?

REP. MOONEY: I would just like to make mention that it was just announced the Department of Health and Human

Services Oversight Committee next meeting is going to be January 23rd. Not sure if that's a factor but just throwing that out there.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Okay. Anybody here a member of that? Both of you.

REP. MOONEY: Three of us.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Three of you.

SEN. GRAY: I did mention -- I did mention to the Chair at the end of the meeting that, you know, if there were a conflict, if he moved his meeting to 9:30 instead of 10, would give us another half an hour down there before we had to come up here. Um -- you know, that could even be moved to nine. But I know that people from the North Country, you know, it makes it --

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: That's a little tight.

SEN. GRAY: -- difficult when we move the meeting any -- any further, so.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: So that other meeting is what time?

REP. MOONEY: I believe it's ten.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Ten?

REP. MOONEY: Okay. Ten.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: How long does it usually

go?

SEN. GRAY: Depending upon the agenda, it usually goes two hours; but today it actually ended in just under an hour, so.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: If we went to the afternoon, would that also have conflicts? Anybody?

SEN. GRAY: Eleven o'clock has worked very well for us. Um -- it's kind of splitting the difference. But, you know, I would rather see Health and Human Services Oversight, you know, move slightly than and try to affect our meeting.

REP. MOONEY: I would agree with that. I think eleven o'clock on the 23rd is good for us.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Okay. Any comments? Mr. Kane.

MR. KANE: (Mr. Kane shakes his head in the negative.)

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Eleven o'clock on the 23rd will be the next meeting of the Joint Finance Committee. Anything else to come before us? Mr. Kane.

MR. KANE: No.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Any member? Motion to adjourn.

**

SEN. LANG: So moved.

SEN. GRAY: Second.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Moved and seconded. All in favor say aye? We are adjourned. Thank you very much for your attention.

(The meeting ended at 12:07 p.m.)

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Cecelia A. Trask, Licensed Court Reporter in the State of New Hampshire, do hereby certify that the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate transcription of the YouTube audio/video recording. I was not physically present and have transcribed said recording to the best of my ability, skill, knowledge and belief.



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