

**Sec. A-1. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and allocations are made.

**ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF**

**Property Tax Stabilization Z368**

Initiative: Provides one-time funding to reimburse municipalities for state-mandated costs related to implementation and administration of the property tax stabilization program created in Public Law 2021, chapter 751.

Ref. #: 39                      One Time                      Committee Vote: \_\_\_\_\_                      AFA Vote: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS</b>	<b>2022-23</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>
All Other	\$0	\$15,000,000	\$0
<b>OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$15,000,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**Justification:**

This initiative provides \$15 million in one-time funding to support higher than anticipated reimbursements to municipalities authorized pursuant to Public Law 2021, chapter 751, An Act To Stabilize Property Taxes for Individuals 65 Years of Age or Older Who Own a Homestead for at Least 10 Years.

**Property Tax Stabilization Mandate Z369**

Initiative: Provides one-time funding to reimburse municipalities for state-mandated costs related to implementation and administration of the property tax stabilization program created in Public Law 2021, chapter 751.

Ref. #: 41                      One Time                      Committee Vote: \_\_\_\_\_                      AFA Vote: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS</b>	<b>2022-23</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>
All Other	\$0	\$50,000	\$0
<b>OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$50,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**Justification:**

This initiative provides \$15 million in one-time funding to support higher than anticipated reimbursements to municipalities authorized pursuant to Public Law 2021, chapter 751, An Act To Stabilize Property Taxes for Individuals 65 Years of Age or Older Who Own a Homestead for at Least 10 Years.

**ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF**

<b>DEPARTMENT TOTALS</b>	<b>2022-23</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>
<b>OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$15,050,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$15,050,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**Sec. A-32. Appropriations and allocations.**

The following appropriations and allocations are made.

**TREASURER OF STATE, OFFICE OF**

**Debt Service - Treasury 0021**

Initiative: Adjusts funding on a one-time basis for debt service. These adjustments are net of transfers of earnings from the temporary investment of bond proceeds pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 151-A.

Ref. #: 805                      One Time                      Committee Vote: \_\_\_\_\_                      AFA Vote: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2022-23</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>
All Other	\$0	\$1,822,000	(\$13,000,000)
<b>GENERAL FUND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$1,822,000</b>	<b>(\$13,000,000)</b>

**Justification:**

This will adjust funding levels for debt service.

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**TREASURER OF STATE, OFFICE OF**

<b>DEPARTMENT TOTALS</b>	<b>2022-23</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>
<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$1,822,000</b>	<b>(\$13,000,000)</b>
<b>DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$1,822,000</b>	<b>(\$13,000,000)</b>

**PART D**

**Sec. D-1. Adjustments to allocations.** Notwithstanding the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 37-B, section 746 or any other provision of law to the contrary, Federal Expenditures Fund - ARP State Fiscal Recovery funds allocated to departments, agencies and programs may be adjusted in fiscal years 2023-24, 2024-25 or 2025-26 either within the same department or agency or between departments or agencies on recommendation of the State Budget Officer and approval of the Governor. The Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services shall report any adjustments to allocations made pursuant to this section to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over appropriations and financial affairs at least quarterly.

**Sec. D-2. PL 2023, c. 3, Pt. C, §5** is amended to read:

**Sec. C-5.** Continuation of limited-period positions. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, limited-period positions funded with the Federal Expenditures Fund - ARP State Fiscal Recovery funds authorized in Public Law 2021, chapter 483, "An Act To Provide Allocations for the Distribution of State Fiscal Recovery Funds," may be extended beyond 2 years by financial order but not later than ~~June 30, 2025~~ December 31, 2026.

**Sec. D-3. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and allocations are made.

**ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF**

Revenue Services, Bureau of 0002

Initiative: Adjusts funding by decreasing General Fund appropriations and increasing Federal Expenditures Fund ARP State Fiscal Recovery Funds allocation in the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Revenue Services program to allow for the expenditure of federal funds in a manner consistent with US Treasury Guidance. Federal funding is available from the allocation provided to the Department of Administrative and Financial Services in Public Law 2021, chapter 483, Part Y.

<b>FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND – ARP STATE FISCAL RECOVERY</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>
All Other	<u>\$10,000,000</u>	<u>\$0</u>
<b>FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND – ARP STATE FISCAL RECOVERY</b>	<b>\$10,000,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>

All Other	<u>(\$10,000,000)</u>	<u>\$0</u>
GENERAL FUND	(\$10,000,000)	\$0

Executive Branch Departments and Independent Agencies - Statewide 0017

Initiative: Allocates one-time funding to support positions necessary to complete projects initially funded with funds received through the American Rescue Plan.

<b>OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>
Personal Services	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$10,000,000</u>
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	\$0	\$10,000,000

**Sec. D-4. Transfer from General Fund unappropriated surplus; Executive Branch Departments and Independent Agencies - Statewide.** Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, on or before June 30, 2024, the State Controller shall transfer \$10,000,000 from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Executive Branch Departments and Independent Agencies - Statewide, Other Special Revenue Funds account to provide one-time funding to support Personal Services costs necessary to complete projects initially funded with funds received through the American Rescue Plan.

**Sec. D-5. Calculation and transfer.** The State Budget Officer shall the calculate the cost of extending positions necessary to complete authorized projects initially funded with funds received through the American Rescue Plan. The State Budget Officer shall transfer the amounts by financial order upon the approval of the Governor. These transfers are considered adjustments to allocations in 2023-24, 2024-25 or 2025-26.

**PART D  
SUMMARY**

This Part authorizes the transfer of allocation within or between departments in order to maximize the use of the State Local Fiscal Recovery Funds. This will allow the redistribution of funds as projects move through their life cycle.

Additionally, this allows limited period positions to be extended through December 31, 2026, based on updated guidance from the US Treasury. According to the US Treasury guidance, all funds must be obligated prior to December 31, 2024 and expended by December 31, 2026. US Treasury guidance identifies which types of position activities are allowable between December

31, 2024, the required obligation date, and December 31, 2026, the required expenditure date. Many projects will continue to require staffing during this two year period.

This Part also adjusts funding by decreasing General Fund appropriations and increasing Federal Expenditures Fund ARP State Fiscal Recovery Funds in the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Revenue Services program to allow for the expenditure of federal funds in a manner consistent with US Treasury Guidance. Federal funding is available from the allocation provided to the Department of Administrative and Financial Services in PL 2023, chapter 483, Part Y. The expenditure of funds in the Bureau of Revenues Services is considered a provision of government services and thus an allowable expenditure of State Fiscal Recovery Funds. The General Fund deappropriation allows for the transfer of General Fund unappropriated surplus to the Statewide account which will be used to support certain positions, initially funded with American Rescue Plan funds, beyond the December 31, 2024 obligation period.

## PART E

**Sec. E-1. Transfer from General Fund unappropriated surplus; Property Tax Stabilization.** Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, on or before June 30, 2024, the State Controller shall transfer \$15,000,000 from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Property Tax Stabilization, Other Special Revenue Funds account for the purposes of funding the reimbursements to municipalities for the amount of property tax assessed in excess of the amount stabilized on a homestead of a permanent resident who is at least 65 years of age pursuant to Public Law 2021, chapter 751, An Act To Stabilize Property Taxes for Individuals 65 Years of Age or Older Who Own a Homestead for at Least 10 Years.

**Sec. E-2. Transfer from General Fund unappropriated surplus; Property Tax Stabilization - Mandate.** Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, on or before June 30, 2024, the State Controller shall transfer \$50,000 from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Property Tax Stabilization - Mandate, Other Special Revenue Funds account for the purposes of funding the reimbursements to municipalities for the state mandated costs related to implementation and administration of the Property Tax Stabilization program enacted in Public Law 2021, chapter 751, An Act To Stabilize Property Taxes for Individuals 65 Years of Age or Older Who Own a Homestead for at Least 10 Years.

## PART E SUMMARY

This Part requires the transfer of \$15,050,000 on or before June 30, 2024 from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Property Tax Stabilization, Other Special Revenue Funds account and the Property Tax Stabilization - Mandate, Other Special Revenue Funds account for the purposes of fully funding

required reimbursements pursuant to Public Law 2021, chapter 751, An Act To Stabilize Property Taxes for Individuals 65 Years of Age or Older Who Own a Homestead for at Least 10 Years.

## PART F

**Sec. F-1. 5 MRSA §1531, sub-§4, as repealed and replaced by PL 2023, c. 412, Part I, §2** is further amended to read:

**4. Biennial base year appropriation.** "Biennial base year appropriation" means:

A. For the 2024-2025 biennium, 98% of the baseline General Fund revenue for fiscal year 2023-24 as of December 1, 2023 ~~2022~~; and

B. For fiscal years subsequent to fiscal year 2024-25, the amount of the General Fund appropriation limitation calculated for the current year pursuant to section 1534, subsection 1.

**Sec. F-2. 5 MRSA §1532, sub-§5 as amended by PL 2023, c.412, Part I, §4** is further amended to read:

**5. Investment proceeds; exception.** At the close of every month during which the stabilization fund is at the 18% limitation described in subsection 1, the State Controller shall transfer from the General Fund to the Irrevocable Trust Funds for Other Post-employment Benefits for the State Employee Plan, as defined in section 286-B, subsection 1.D., and established in section 286-B, subsection 2, paragraph 3 an amount equal to the investment earnings that otherwise would have been credited to the stabilization fund.

**Sec. F-3. 5 MRSA §1535, sub-§3 as enacted by PL 2023, c.412, Part I, §7** is further amended to read:

**3. Irrevocable Trust Funds for Other Post-employment Benefits.** Ten percent to the Irrevocable Trust Funds for Other Post-employment Benefits established in section 286-B, subsection 2, paragraph 3, the 'state employee plan'.

## PART F SUMMARY

This Part updates the definition of biennial base year appropriation and clarifies the State Employee Plan as the Irrevocable Trust Funds for Other Post-employment Benefits that receives funds.

SEN. TROY D. JACKSON  
CHAIR

REP. RACHEL TALBOT ROSS  
VICE-CHAIR

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
SUZANNE M. GRESSER



131<sup>ST</sup> MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE  
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To: Senator Margaret Rotundo, Senate Chair  
Representative Melanie Sachs, House Chair  
Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

From: Suzanne M. Gresser, Executive Director  
Legislative Council

Date: February 1, 2024

Re: FY 2024-2025 Budget for Legislature

I am informing you that the Legislative Council voted to make the following additional changes to the Legislature's 2024-2025 biennial budget:

Establish one legislative position count for one Information Security Administrator position, one legislative position count for one Virtual Meeting Production Administrator position, two legislative position counts for two Senior Programmer Analyst positions and .654 FTE count for one session-only Desktop Support Administrator position and appropriate \$518,714 in fiscal year 2024-25 in the General Fund Legislative account to fund the positions.

Lapse an amount sufficient to offset the additional General Fund costs for the positions from unspent balances in the General Fund Legislative Account, Personal Services line.

If you have any questions, please contact President Jackson, Speaker Talbot Ross or me.

Thank you.

Cc: Christopher Nolan, Director, OFPR  
Dawna Lopatosky, Legislative Finance Director