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STATE OF MAINE ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE ON INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

To: Senator Margaret Rotundo, Senate Chair
Representative Melanie F. Sachs, House Chair
Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

From: Senator David LaFountain, Senate Chair
Representative H. Scott Landry, Jr., House Chair
Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

Date: March 12, 2024

Subject: Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Committee Recommendations on the Governor's Supplemental Budget Bill (LD 2214)

We are writing to provide the recommendations of the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife on the initiatives under the committee's policy jurisdiction included in the Governor's Supplemental Budget Bill (LD 2214). These items were considered at a public hearing held on March 1, 2024 and again at a work session held on March 6, 2024.

The 7 members¹ of the committee present and voting at the March 6th work session unanimously voted in all of the initiatives that fall under the committee's jurisdiction. With respect to Reference #589, which provides funding for the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to replace 130 handguns, Representative Sally Cluchey also requested that the Department work with the Office of Fiscal and Program Review to determine what it would cost to have the handguns that are being replaced destroyed rather than selling them back to Sig Sauer, the manufacturer, which is the current practice.

We have attached the budget worksheet provided by the Office of Fiscal and Program Review, showing the committee's votes on all initiatives. Please let us know if we can provide additional information or assistance.

Thank you for your consideration of our recommendations.

Sincerely,

¹ Members present for vote: Rep. Cluchey, Rep. Dill, Rep. Drinkwater, Rep. Landry, Rep. Mason, Rep. Thorne and Rep. Wood. Members absent: Sen. Black, Sen. Curry, Sen. LaFountain, Rep. Golek, Rep. Hepler and Rep. Woodsome.

Sen. David LaFountain
Senate Chair

Rep. H. Scott Landry, Jr.
House Chair

cc: Members, Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs
Members, Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife
Maureen Dawson, OFPR
Michael Russo, OFPR
Commissioner Judy Camuso, DIFW

Initiative: Provides funding for the approved reorganization of one Public Service Coordinator I position from range 25 to range 26 and provides funding for related All Other costs.

Ref. #: 586

Committee Vote: 7-0

AFA Vote: _____

FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND

	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Personal Services	\$0	\$0	\$383
All Other	\$0	\$0	\$12
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND TOTAL	\$0	\$0	\$395

Justification:

This Federal Aid Coordinator position was approved in Public Law 2023 chapter 412 at a range 25; however, Bureau of Human Resources approved the job task for this position to be a range 26.

Enforcement Operations - Inland Fisheries and Wildlife 0537

Initiative: Provides funding for the increase in aircraft maintenance costs.

Ref. #: 588

Committee Vote: 7-0

AFA Vote: _____

GENERAL FUND

	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
All Other	\$0	\$109,400	\$109,400
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$0	\$109,400	\$109,400

Justification:

There has been a large increase in aircraft maintenance expenses due to manufacturing and supply chain issues as well as a substantial increase in labor costs.

Enforcement Operations - Inland Fisheries and Wildlife 0537

Initiative: Provides funding for the replacement of 130 handguns.

Ref. #: 589

One Time

Committee Vote: 7-0

AFA Vote: _____

GENERAL FUND

	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
All Other	\$0	\$146,250	\$0
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$0	\$146,250	\$0

Justification:

The handguns used by the Maine Warden Service are reaching the end of their expected life. Sig Sauer no longer manufactures the handguns that are currently being used, to ensure uniformity all handguns will be replaced.

Enforcement Operations - Inland Fisheries and Wildlife 0537

Initiative: Provides funding for 130 rifle plate inserts used in ballistic vests.

Ref. #: 590 One Time Committee Vote: 7-0 AFA Vote: _____

GENERAL FUND	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
All Other	\$0	\$150,000	\$0
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$150,000</u>	<u>\$0</u>

Justification:

This equipment is needed to provide ballistic protection from long guns.

Fisheries and Hatcheries Operations 0535

Initiative: Provides funding for the approved range change of one Superintendent Fish Hatcheries position from a range 30 to a range 32, retroactive to August 14, 2020.

Ref. #: 578 Committee Vote: 7-0 AFA Vote: _____

GENERAL FUND	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Personal Services	\$0	\$38,021	\$9,303
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$38,021</u>	<u>\$9,303</u>

Justification:

This change assigns a new pay range for the position to the appropriate range for the work being performed.

Fisheries and Hatcheries Operations 0535

Initiative: Provides funding for the approved reorganization of one Public Service Coordinator I position from range 25 to range 26 and provides funding for related All Other costs.

Ref. #: 579 Committee Vote: 7-0 AFA Vote: _____

GENERAL FUND	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Personal Services	\$0	\$0	\$224
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$224</u>

Ref. #: 580 Committee Vote: 7-0 AFA Vote: _____

FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Personal Services	\$0	\$0	\$574

Resource Management Services - Inland Fisheries and Wildlife 0534

Initiative: Provides funding for operating expenses in the Resource Management Services - Inland Fisheries and Wildlife program, Black Bear Research and Management Fund.

Ref. #: 567

Committee Vote: 7-0

AFA Vote: _____

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS

	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
All Other	\$0	\$0	\$30,000
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$0	\$0	\$30,000

Justification:

Revenues for this account are derived from the sales of nonresident late season bear hunting permits and the sales of bear trapping permits. These revenues will be used to fund ongoing operational expenses for the program.

Resource Management Services - Inland Fisheries and Wildlife 0534

Initiative: Provides funding for operating expenses in the Resource Management Services - Inland Fisheries and Wildlife program, Moose Research and Management Fund.

Ref. #: 568

Committee Vote: 7-0

AFA Vote: _____

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS

	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
All Other	\$0	\$0	\$40,000
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$0	\$0	\$40,000

Justification:

Revenues for this account are derived from the sale of nonresident moose hunting permits and will be used to fund ongoing operational expenses for the program.

Resource Management Services - Inland Fisheries and Wildlife 0534

Initiative: Continues and makes permanent one IF&W Resource Biologist position previously established by Financial Order 02900 F4 in the Bureau of Resource Management and provides funding for related All Other costs.

Ref. #: 569

Committee Vote: 7-0

AFA Vote: _____

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS

	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	0.000	0.000	1.000
Personal Services	\$0	\$0	\$108,460
All Other	\$0	\$0	\$2,837
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$0	\$0	\$111,297

INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE, DEPARTMENT OF

DEPARTMENT TOTALS	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
GENERAL FUND	\$0	\$653,797	\$602,139
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND	\$0	\$0	(\$475,822)
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	\$0	(\$7,302)	\$189,442
DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$0	\$646,495	\$315,759