



MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE  
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

**127<sup>th</sup> Legislature  
Legislative Council**

**APRIL 28, 2016  
1:30 PM**

**REVISED AGENDA**

<u>Page</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Action</u>
	<b>CALL TO ORDER</b>	
	<b>ROLL CALL</b>	
<b>1</b>	<b>SUMMARY OF THE MARCH 24, 2016 MEETING OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL</b>	<b>Acceptance</b>
	<b>REPORTS FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND STAFF OFFICE DIRECTORS</b>	
❖ <b>13</b>	• Executive Director's Report (Mr. Pennoyer)	<b>Information</b>
<b>14</b>	• Fiscal Report (Mr. Nolan)	<b>Information</b>
	<b>REPORTS FROM COUNCIL COMMITTEES</b>	
	• Personnel Committee	
	• State House Facilities Committee	
	<b>OLD BUSINESS</b>	
<b>18</b>	Item #1: Consideration of Pre-Cloture Bill Requests tabled from October 22 and November 19	<b>Roll Call Vote</b>
<b>20</b>	Item #2: Council Actions Taken By Ballot (No Action Required)	<b>Information</b>
<b>21</b>	Item #3: Council Actions on Legislative Studies Taken By Ballot (No Action Required)	<b>Information</b>
❖ <b>22</b>	Item #4: Webcasts and Archived Files	<b>Discussion/ Decision</b>

**NEW BUSINESS**

- ❖ 26 Item #1: Consideration of After Deadline Bill Requests

**Roll Call Vote**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REMARKS**

**ADJOURNMENT**

SEN. MICHAEL D. THIBODEAU  
CHAIR

REP. MARK W. EVES  
VICE-CHAIR

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
GRANT T. PENNOYER



127<sup>TH</sup> MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE  
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

SEN. GARRETT P. MASON  
SEN. ANDRE E. CUSHING  
SEN. JUSTIN L. ALFOND  
SEN. DAWN HILL  
REP. JEFFREY M. MCCABE  
REP. SARA GIDEON  
REP. KENNETH W. FREDETTE  
REP. ELEANOR M. ESPLING

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
MEETING SUMMARY  
March 24, 2016**

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Thibodeau called the March 24, 2016 meeting of the Legislative Council to order at 2:25 p.m. in the Legislative Council Chamber.

**ROLL CALL**

Senators: President Thibodeau, Senator Mason, Senator Cushing, Senator Alfond and Senator Hill

Representatives: Speaker Eves, Representative McCabe, Representative Gideon, Representative Fredette and Representative Espling

Legislative Officers: Robert Hunt, Clerk of the House  
Jennifer McGowan, Assistant Clerk of the House  
Grant T. Pennoyer, Executive Director of the Legislative Council  
Jackie Little, Human Resource Director  
Marion Hylan Barr, Director, OPLA  
Suzanne Gresser, Revisor of Statutes  
Chris Nolan, Director, OFPR  
John Barden, Director, Law and Legislative Reference Library  
Kevin Dieterich, Director, Legislative Information Technology

President Thibodeau convened the meeting at 2:25 p.m. with a quorum of members present.

Legislative Council Chair Thibodeau asked if there was any objection to taking items out of order. There was no objection. The Chair then moved to **New Business, Item 1.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Item #1: Consideration of After Deadline Bill Requests**

The Legislative Council considered and voted on the bill requests in accordance with the established protocol. Of the 13 new bill requests, the council authorized 6 requests for

introduction in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Regular Session of the 127<sup>th</sup> Legislature, 1 failed to be authorized, 5 were tabled and 1 was withdrawn by the sponsor. Of the 15 previously tabled bill requests, the council reconsidered and authorized 1 request (LR 2664), 4 received motions to reconsider that failed (LRs: 2561, 2640, 2569 and 2697) therefore they remain tabled, and all others remain tabled. The council tabled the joint resolution (LR 2785) and took no action on the previously tabled joint resolution (LR 163), so it remains tabled. The council also authorized one agency bill (LR 2793) for introduction. The Legislative Council's actions on the requests are included on the attached list.

## OLD BUSINESS

### Item #1: Consideration of Bill Requests Tabled from October 22 and November 19

The Legislative Council moved to reconsider and authorize one bill request (LR 2200) for introduction in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Regular Session of the 127<sup>th</sup> Legislature. No action was taken on all other previously tabled bill requests, so all remain tabled. The Legislative Council's actions on the requests are included on the attached list.

The Legislative Council then returned to the other items on its agenda.

## SUMMARY OF FEBRUARY 25, 2016 MEETING OF LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

**Motion:** That the Meeting Summary for February 25, 2016 be accepted and placed on file. Motion by Senator Alfond. Second by Senator Hill. **Motion passed unanimous (9-0-0-1, with Representative Fredette absent).**

## REPORTS FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND COUNCIL OFFICES

### Executive Director's Report

Grant Pennoyer, Executive Director, reported on:

#### 1. Active Shooter Incident Training and Preparation

We have had two training sessions for legislative staff to prepare for and react to active shooter incidents; the latest was held March 2<sup>nd</sup>. One of the major initiatives under way to prepare for these potential incidents is an effort to enhance secure-in-place options in the Cross Office Building and the State House. This effort includes adding locks to or modifying locks of interior office doors when possible so that they may be locked from inside the room. Interior offices with interior windows are having blinds or shades added to hide room occupants, if needed. This effort is currently in process in the Cross Office Building where the effort is easier to implement. The State House with a variety of door types and locks will be more difficult and is planned for after the Cross Office Building effort is finished.

#### 2. Original Copper from the State House Dome – Progress Report

As of Wednesday, we have sold almost 200 mementos (74 plaques and 122 framed pictures). We have also sold approximately 1060 square feet of the copper in rough form. We will make a final marketing effort toward the end of the Legislative session to move as much of the

remaining rough copper as possible before the end of June, when the lease on the storage unit ends.

### 3. Public Art Commission Phase of Copper Reuse Project

Approximately 1000 square feet of the rough copper has been set aside in separate storage for use in a commissioned work of art. The Maine Arts Commission has initiated the artist selection process by reaching out to members of the Artist Selection Committee to establish the first meeting and begin an intensive effort to select a site for the work and the artist.

## Fiscal Report

Chris Nolan, Director, Office of Fiscal and Program Review, reported on:

### General Fund Revenue Update

Total General Fund Revenue - FY 2016 (\$'s in Millions)						
	Budget	Actual	Var.	% Var.	Prior Year	% Growth
February	\$122.3	\$139.5	\$17.2	14.1%	\$148.7	-6.2%
FYTD	\$2,061.1	\$2,140.2	\$79.1	3.8%	\$1,930.5	10.9%

General Fund revenue was over budget by \$17.2 million (14.1%) for the month of February and over budget by \$79.1 million (3.8%) for the fiscal year through February. These positive variances do not reflect the March revenue forecast, which increased budgeted revenue for FY 16 by \$67.3 million. The March monthly revenue report will reflect the new monthly distribution resulting from the March forecast.

Individual income tax revenue was \$15.4 million over budget for the month of February and \$57.5 million over budget for the fiscal year through February. This line should be closer to the budget amount once the March adjustment is made. Estimated payments and withholding again showed strong performance. Sales and use tax revenue was over budget by \$2.7 million for the month and over budget by \$7.6 million for the fiscal year to date. Corporate income tax revenue was under budget by \$0.9 million for February but over budget by \$4.1 million for the fiscal year to date.

### Highway Fund Revenue Update

Total Highway Fund Revenue - FY 2016 (\$'s in Millions)						
	Budget	Actual	Var.	% Var.	Prior Year	% Growth
February	\$25.6	\$27.3	\$1.6	6.3%	\$26.6	2.4%
FYTD	\$216.4	\$222.7	\$6.4	2.9%	\$196.9	13.1%

Highway Fund revenue was over budget by \$1.6 million (6.3%) for the month of February and over budget by \$6.4 million (2.9%) for the fiscal year through February. These positive variances do not reflect the March revenue forecast, which increased budgeted revenue for FY 16 by \$2.5 million. Fuel taxes were over budget for the month of February by \$0.5 million and over budget for the fiscal year to date by \$0.5 million. Motor vehicle registration and fees were over budget by \$1.3 million for the month of February and over budget by \$4.5 million for the fiscal year to date.

## Cash Balances Update

February's total average cash balances of \$840.6 million were well above both last year's balances for February of \$675.4 million and the ten-year average for February of \$500.7 million. There was no General Fund internal borrowing from other funds in February. The average Highway Fund balance of \$40.0 million in February increased slightly from January's average of \$39.1 million but was below last year's balance for February of \$54.2 million.

## REPORTS FROM COUNCIL COMMITTEES

### 1. Personnel Committee

No report

### 2. State House Facilities Committee

Senator Mason reported the State House Facilities Committee met on Thursday, March 17<sup>th</sup> to consider the following items.

#### 1. Video and audio webcasts – recording and archiving Legislative Proceedings

The committee continued its discussion of the upgrades to the Legislature's video and audio webcasts that included options for recording and accessing archived meetings beginning with this session. The committee recommends that the legislature stop recording for the 128<sup>th</sup> Legislature until approved by the Legislative Council. This issue will be discussed further under Old Business.

#### 2. Rebidding Construction Manager and Architect Services for Legislature

After further review, the Executive Director is now considering a change that would eliminate the contracted Construction Manager after this interim and filling that role with a revised Facilities Support Staff position. Mr. Pennoyer reported that the contract with the current Architect expires at the end of this year and the contract for those services would be rebid this fall.

#### 3. Security Cameras in the State House

Mr. Pennoyer reported that the cost for cameras and wiring in the State House is estimated to be \$48,160.00. The Committee approved this project to be added to the current work plan contingent on achieving general savings in various work projects already scheduled.

#### 4. Request for Funding for Blaine House Grounds Restoration

A request was made to provide funding for renovation of the Blaine House Grounds. The committee was in favor of providing the funding. The committee approved the Phase II request of \$15,000 of identified savings be transferred to the Blaine House Renovations and Repairs Fund. The committee further requested that the Blaine House and the Executive Director reach out to the Chief Executive to see if he will assist with the \$151,000 estimated cost for Phase III. This issue will be discussed further under New Business.

5. Policy Updates for State House Facilities

Mr. Pennoyer presented revisions to the following policies which clarify or adjust various provisions regarding the Legislative Council Chamber, the Legislative Conference Room and the Welcome Center. The committee voted to recommend approval by the Legislative Council of the policy changes. Those policy changes are included under New Business.

6. Tartan Stone Proposal for the State of Maine

The committee voted to table this item to its next meeting.

7. Updates from the Executive Director

Mr. Pennoyer presented to the committee a written update on the following issues: the Liberty Bell relocation to the public space of the State Library, the repair needed on the flag pole on the south wing's low dome, continuing paint issues on the dome, chamber camera replacement estimates and copper reuse project status.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Item #2: Council Actions Taken by Ballot**

**Requests for Introduction of Legislation:**

**LR 2750 An Act to Establish a Presidential Primary System in Maine**

Submitted by: Senator Justin Alford  
Approved: March 11, 2016  
Vote: 9-0-0-1 in favor (with Sen. Mason absent)

**LR 2708 Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 3: Maine Clean Election Act and Related Provisions, a Late-filed Major Substantive Rule of the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices**

Submitted by: Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices  
Approved: March 16, 2016  
Vote: 10-0 in favor

**LR 2761 Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 120: Release of Data to the Public, a Late-filed Major Substantive Rule of the Maine Health Data Organization**

Submitted by: Maine Health Data Organization  
Approved: March 16, 2016  
Vote: 10-0 in favor

**LR 2556 An Act to Allow Certain Retirees to Buy Back Lost Pay**

Submitted by: Representative Richard Pickett  
 Approved: March 17, 2016  
 Vote: 10-0 in favor

**Item #3: Webcasts and Archived Files**

Senator Mason began the discussion expressing his concern over the recording of committee meetings without a full Legislative Council discussion and indicated that he would prefer that the recordings stop as soon as possible. He also noted the initial confusion within his caucus about when and which committees were being recorded. Representative McCabe expressed concern over suspending recording before the end of the session. Senator Hill also wondered about how interim committee meetings would be treated and hoped that State House Facilities Committee and the Legislative Council could make a recommendation soon.

Senator Hill and President Thibodeau asked questions about the provisions of the contract for the recording and archiving. Mr. Pennoyer provided an overview of the contract. Senator Hill raised a question about what would happen to the recordings on the remote storage and the State's liability and directed that the contract be reviewed more thoroughly.

President Thibodeau raised a concern that the recording of committee meeting might affect public participation in the legislative process. Representative McCabe noted that we should do a better job informing the public that meetings are broadcast over the internet and are already being recorded by Maine Public Broadcasting Network.

**Motion:** That the Legislature suspend recording committee meetings as of the 128<sup>th</sup> Legislature pending a recommendation of the State House Facilities Committee and a Legislative Council decision on recording. Motion by Senator Mason. Second by Senator Cushing. **Motion passed unanimous (9-0-0-1, with Representative Fredette absent).**

**NEW BUSINESS****Item #2: Revision of the *Legislative Council Policy on the Use of the Legislative Council Chamber***

**Motion:** That the Legislative Council approve the changes to the *Legislative Council Policy on the Use of the Legislative Council Chamber*. Motion by President Thibodeau. Second by Senator Mason. **Motion passed unanimous (8-0-0-2, with Representatives McCabe and Fredette absent).**

**Item #3: Revision of the *Legislative Council Policy on the Use of the Legislative Conference Room***

**Motion:** That the Legislative Council approve the changes to the *Legislative Council Policy on the Use of the Legislative Conference Room*. Motion by Senator Mason. Second by Senator Alford. **Motion passed unanimous (8-0-0-2, with Representatives McCabe and Fredette absent).**



**Item #4: Revision of the *Legislative Council Policy on the Use of the State House Welcome Center***

**Motion:** That the Legislative Council approve the changes to the *Legislative Council Policy on the Use of the State House Welcome Center*. Motion by Senator Alford. Second by Senator Mason. **Motion passed unanimous (8-0-0-2**, with Representatives McCabe and Fredette absent).

**Item #5: Blaine House Grounds Restoration Funding**

Sen. Cushing introduced the proposal to provide funding for the Blaine House ground restoration by indicating that it is the Legislature obligation to help maintain the Blaine House. He also shared that the Governor indicated his willingness to support \$15,000 toward the project from the State Contingent Account. Mr. Pennoyer clarified that the total amount of funding needed for this project was \$166,000, leaving \$151,000 after Governor's commitment to fully satisfy the request to fund this restoration project.

**Motion:** That the Legislative Council approve the transfer of a total of \$151,000 from the State House Preservation and Maintenance Fund to the Blaine House Repairs and Maintenance Fund for the balance of funding required for the Blaine House Grounds Restoration Project and further that the Legislative Council authorize the transfer of savings identified by the Executive Director in accounts of the Legislature to the State House Preservation and Maintenance Fund to offset the transfer of \$151,000. Motion by Senator Cushing. Second by Senator Mason. **Motion passed unanimous (8-0-0-2**, with Representatives McCabe and Fredette absent).

**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REMARKS**

With no other business to consider or further announcements, the Legislative Council meeting was adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Legislative Council Action Taken March 24, 2016 on**  
**Pre-Cloture Bill Requests Tabled**  
**October 22 and November 19, 2015**

		<b>Action</b>
<b>Representative Campbell of Orrington</b>		
LR 2330	An Act To Encourage the Development of Commercial Transportation Opportunities in Bucksport	TABLED 11/19/15
LR 2331	An Act To Encourage the Development of Electrical and Natural Gas Infrastructure in Bucksport	TABLED 11/19/15
<b>Representative Fowle of Vassalboro</b>		
LR 2209	An Act To Amend the Public Safety Laws	TABLED 10/22/15
<b>Representative Fredette of Newport</b>		
LR 2343	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue to Invest in Marine Transportation and Port Infrastructure at Mack Point to Meet the Needs of the Marine Construction and Shipping Business Sector and to Create Jobs	TABLED 10/22/15
<b>Representative Gattine of Westbrook</b>		
LR 2432	An Act To Promote the Success and Accountability of Welfare Reform Initiatives in Maine	TABLED 10/22/15
LR 2456	Resolve, To Improve Access to and the Quality of Services for Persons with Mental Illness	TABLED 11/19/15
<b>Senator Gerzofsky of Cumberland</b>		
LR 2200	An Act To Amend and Clarify the Brunswick Naval Air Station Job Increment Financing Fund	TABLED 10/22/15 <b>PASSED 3/24/16</b>
<b>Representative Gideon of Freeport</b>		
LR 2479	An Act To Make Maine Energy-independent	TABLED 11/19/15

**Representative Herbig of Belfast**

LR 2401 An Act to Provide Job Opportunities to Families Participating in the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program TABLED 10/22/15

**Senator Hill of York**

LR 2408 An Act To Provide Accountability in State Government Partnerships TABLED 11/19/15

**Representative McCabe of Skowhegan**

LR 2321 An Act To Amend the Maine Criminal Code to Clarify the Prohibition on the Exercise of Improper Influence TABLED 10/22/15

LR 2322 An Act To Ensure the Proper Functioning of State Government by Ensuring Execution of Executive Branch Duties TABLED 11/19/15

**Representative Rotundo of Lewiston**

LR 2399 An Act To Fund and Implement Wage Adjustments for All State Correctional Employees Who Perform Direct Care or Supervision of Prisoners TABLED 11/19/15

**Senator Thibodeau of Winterport**

LR 2417 An Act To Ensure Accountability in Maine's Welfare System TABLED 10/22/15

**Representative Wadsworth of Hiram**

LR 2489 An Act To Ensure a Timely Reduction in Energy Costs for Maine Consumers TABLED 11/19/15

**127th Maine State Legislature  
Legislative Council Action Taken on  
Requests to Introduce Legislation  
Second Regular Session  
March 24, 2016**

**AFTER DEADLINE BILL REQUESTS**

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
<b>SPONSOR:</b> 2793	<b>Finance Authority of Maine</b> An Act To Amend the Finance Authority of Maine Act	PASSED
<b>SPONSOR:</b> 2751	<b>Senator Scott W. Cyrway</b> An Act To Increase Penalties for the Use of Violence against Emergency Personnel	PASSED
<b>SPONSOR:</b> 2789	<b>Senator Christopher K. Johnson</b> An Act To Create a Veteran-friendly Business Designation	TABLED
<b>SPONSOR:</b> 2796	<b>Representative Louis J. Luchini</b> An Act To Assist Small Distilleries	PASSED
<b>SPONSOR:</b> 2792	<b>Representative Joyce A. Maker</b> An Act To Protect Children in the State from Possible Sexual, Physical and Emotional Abuse by Persons Who Have Been Convicted of Crimes	PASSED
<b>SPONSOR:</b> 2739	<b>Representative Richard S. Malaby</b> An Act To Develop Plans for the Expansion of Infrastructure for State Forensic and Civil Mental Health Treatment	TABLED
<b>SPONSOR:</b> 2782	<b>Representative Jeff M. McCabe</b> An Act To Prevent the Separation of the Hydropower Assets at the Madison Paper Company for 2 Years	TABLED
2783	Resolve, Directing the Department of Economic and Community Development To Work with the University of Maine System To Study the Future of the Forest Products Industry	TABLED
2784	An Act To Address Job Losses and the Loss of Municipal Valuation in Mill Towns	TABLED
<b>SPONSOR:</b> 2779	<b>Senator David R. Miramant</b> An Act To Establish a Public Service Berthing Vessel License	PASSED

<b>SPONSOR:</b> 2752	<b>Representative Catherine M. Nadeau</b> An Act To Allow Municipalities To Make Decisions Regarding Firearms at Municipal Meetings	FAILED
<b>SPONSOR:</b> 2762	<b>Representative Joel Stetkis</b> An Act to Amend the Provisions of the Maine Clean Election Act Regarding Seed Money Contributions	WITHDRAWN by Sponsor
<b>SPONSOR:</b> 2787	<b>Pres. Michael D. Thibodeau</b> An Act To Clarify That Buprenorphine Is a Scheduled Drug	PASSED

#### JOINT RESOLUTIONS

<b>SPONSOR:</b> 2785	<b>Representative Jeff M. McCabe</b> JOINT RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES TO ADDRESS THE NEGATIVE IMPACT OF TRADE AGREEMENTS ON MANUFACTURING IN MAINE	TABLED
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#### ACTION TAKEN ON REQUESTS PREVIOUSLY TABLED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

#### AFTER DEADLINE BILL REQUESTS

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
<b>SPONSOR:</b> 2594	<b>Senator Justin L. Alford</b> An Act To Facilitate the Timely Processing of Applications for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Benefits	Tabled 12/17/15
2595	An Act To Prohibit the Expenditure of Any Cash-based Benefits from the State on Lottery Tickets	Tabled 12/17/15
2687	An Act To Provide an Exemption from State Tax Liability for Employers Who Pay the Student Loan Debt of Their Employees	Tabled 02/25/16
<b>SPONSOR:</b> 2638	<b>Representative Henry E. Beck</b> An Act To Tax Electronic Cigarettes	Tabled 01/28/16
<b>SPONSOR:</b> 2558	<b>Senator James F. Dill</b> An Act To Provide Assistance to Laid-off Workers	Tabled 12/17/15
<b>SPONSOR:</b> 2561	<b>Representative Michelle Ann Dunphy</b> An Act To Adjust the Property Tax Valuation of Old Town Following the Closure of the Old Town Expera Pulp Mill	Tabled 12/17/15
<b>SPONSOR:</b> 2592	<b>Representative Kenneth W. Fredette</b> An Act To Create the Maine Energy Office	Tabled 12/17/15

<b>SPONSOR:</b> 2640	<b>Representative Sara Gideon</b> An Act To Protect Maine's Wood Products Industry	Tabled 01/28/16
<b>SPONSOR:</b> 2630	<b>Senator Roger J. Katz</b> An Act To Increase Access to Health Coverage for Drug Addiction Services and Qualify Maine for Federal Funding for Such Services	Tabled 01/28/16
<b>SPONSOR:</b> 2714	<b>Senator Brian D. Langley</b> An Act To Increase Education Funding	Tabled 02/25/16
<b>SPONSOR:</b> 2664	<b>Representative Louis J. Luchini</b> An Act To Change the Definition of "Hard Cider" for Consistency with Federal Law	Tabled 02/25/16 <b>PASSED 3/24/16</b>
<b>SPONSOR:</b> 2569	<b>Representative Jeff M. McCabe</b> An Act To Establish a Commission on the Blind and Visually Impaired	Tabled 12/17/15
<b>SPONSOR:</b> 2659	<b>Senator David R. Miramant</b> An Act To Expedite Health Care Programs for Maine Veterans	Tabled 02/25/16
<b>SPONSOR:</b> 2697	<b>Representative Diane M. Russell</b> An Act To Authorize the Treatment of Opioid Addiction through Medicinal Cannabis	Tabled 02/25/16
<b>SPONSOR:</b> 2625	<b>Representative Arthur C. Verow</b> An Act Concerning Visitation Rights for Adult Children of Adults under Guardianship	Tabled 01/28/16

#### JOINT RESOLUTIONS

<b>SPONSOR:</b> 163	<b>Representative Henry John Bear</b> JOINT RESOLUTION TO ALLEVIATE TRIBAL UNEMPLOYMENT AND FUND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMS WITHIN THE HOULTON BAND OF MALISEET INDIANS BY URGING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO ESTABLISH A PROCESS TO PROVIDE EQUITABLE MALISEET LAND CLAIMS SETTLEMENT COMPENSATION FOR THE OCCUPATION AND LOSS OF NEARLY 5,000,000 ACRES OF MALISEET TRIBAL HOMELAND IN THE AROOSTOOK COUNTY REGION	Tabled 12/17/15
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127<sup>TH</sup> MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE  
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## Legislative Council

### Executive Director's Report April 28, 2016

#### 1. Status of Major Construction Projects for this Interim

- **State House Roof** - Work to replace the EPDM (rubber) roof on the north wing of the State House has begun and will continue through the end of June. The project will then shift to the south wing in July.
- **House Chamber** - Repairs of water damage and other improvements in the House Chamber will begin toward the end of June and are expected to end in late September or early October.
- **State Street Sidewalk** - The replacement of the State Street sidewalk will begin shortly after the selection of the contractor or contractors for this project. Bids are currently under review.

#### 2. Heating and Cooling System Repairs

The State House has experienced a number of leaks in the heating and cooling system towards the tail end of the heating system. Most of the areas affected are in the West Wing and include: the Legislative Council Chamber, the Governor's Office, staff offices in the Governor's Office, the House Republican Office, the Welcome Center, the kitchenette of the Clerk's Office and the Document Room. Repairs are currently in process for many of these areas. Work in the Legislative Council Chamber will begin Saturday, which will make the Council Chamber unavailable for much of May.

#### 3. Original Copper from the State House Dome

We made a final marketing effort by email to Legislators and Legislative Staff recently as we are reaching the end of the lease of the secure storage facility. The State House Facilities Committee discussed options for the remaining copper in the storage facility.

#### 4. Electric Vehicle Charging Stations

The Capitol Planning Commission recently voted to approve signage for the placement of the electric vehicle charging stations in the Parking Garage. This was the last hurdle in a very long effort led by the Greater Portland Council of Governments to get some charging station located at the Capitol complex. Two parking spots against the inside wall immediately inside the Chamberlain Street entrance will have charging units installed and be reserved for electric vehicles.

# Fiscal Briefing

Legislative Council Meeting – April 28, 2016

Prepared by the Office of Fiscal & Program Review

## 1. General Fund Revenue Update (see attached)

Total General Fund Revenue - FY 2016 (\$'s in Millions)

	Budget	Actual	Var.	% Var.	Prior Year	% Growth
March	\$224.2	\$208.7	(\$15.5)	-6.9%	\$200.5	4.1%
FYTD	\$2,338.0	\$2,348.9	\$10.9	0.5%	\$2,131.0	10.2%

General Fund revenue was under budget by \$15.5 million (6.9%) for the month of March but over budget by \$10.9 million (0.5%) for the fiscal year through March. These variances now reflect the March revenue forecast, which increased budgeted revenue for FY 16 by \$67.3 million.

Individual income tax revenue was \$4.3 million under budget for both the month of March and the fiscal year through March. Most of the negative variance was from withholding payments. Withholding payments will slow through the remainder of the fiscal year due to the tax cut enacted in the biennial budget. Refunds were also under budget for the month (more refunds paid out than budgeted). Sales and use tax revenue was over budget by \$4.5 million for the month and over budget by \$7.2 million for the fiscal year to date. February taxable sales (March revenue) increased by 11% over last year. Corporate income tax revenue was under budget by \$2.5 million for March but over budget by \$1.6 million for the fiscal year to date due mainly to refunds.

## 2. Highway Fund Revenue Update (see attached)

Total Highway Fund Revenue - FY 2016 (\$'s in Millions)

	Budget	Actual	Var.	% Var.	Prior Year	% Growth
March	\$23.7	\$25.0	\$1.3	5.6%	\$24.7	1.3%
FYTD	\$244.9	\$247.8	\$2.9	1.2%	\$221.6	11.8%

Highway Fund revenue was over budget by \$1.3 million (5.6%) for the month of March and over budget by \$2.9 million (1.2%) for the fiscal year through March. These positive variances now reflect the March revenue forecast, which increased budgeted revenue for FY 16 by \$2.5 million. Fuel taxes were under budget for the month of March by \$0.2 million but over budget for the fiscal year to date by \$0.4 million. Motor vehicle registration and fees were over budget by \$1.7 million for the month of March and over budget by \$2.1 million for the fiscal year to date.

## 3. Cash Balances Update

The average balance in the cash pool in March dropped to \$734.3 million from \$840.6 million in February. March is usually the low point for cash balances in the fiscal year, before the usual recovery in late April from income tax payments. March's total cash balances were still well above both last year's balances for March and the ten-year average for March. General Fund internal borrowing from other funds was \$29.8 million in March, This was only the third time this fiscal year such borrowing was necessary and the amount was well below historical levels for March. The average Highway Fund balance of \$46.6 million in March increased slightly from February's average of \$40.0 million but was below last year's balance for March of \$56.2 million.

## 4. Tobacco Settlement Payments

On April 18<sup>th</sup>, the State received its first 2015 tobacco settlement payment totaling \$51.8 million that accrues to the Fund for a Healthy Maine (FHM) - \$49.4 million was budgeted. It is not known if additional payments will be received.



**General Fund Revenue  
Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2016 (FY 2016)**

**March 2016 Revenue Variance Report**

Revenue Category	March '16		March '16		Fiscal Year-To-Date		% Change from Prior Year	FY 2016 Budgeted Totals	
	Budget	Actual	Actual	Variance	Budget	Actual			Variance
Sales and Use Tax	78,207,006	82,729,634	4,522,628		958,377,357	965,531,872	7,154,515	0.7%	1,260,137,966
Service Provider Tax	5,102,045	4,325,661	(776,384)		36,996,697	35,197,631	(1,799,066)	-4.9%	55,073,214
Individual Income Tax	61,000,000	56,651,465	(4,348,535)		1,067,714,936	1,063,366,313	(4,348,623)	-0.4%	1,546,354,595
Corporate Income Tax	27,327,500	24,818,097	(2,509,403)		74,427,120	76,065,315	1,638,195	2.2%	138,354,603
Cigarette and Tobacco Tax	10,073,407	11,042,155	968,748		103,156,304	105,776,093	2,619,789	2.5%	136,641,000
Insurance Companies Tax	15,032,910	15,094,218	61,308		29,028,503	29,560,395	531,892	1.8%	82,700,000
Estate Tax	2,660,100	736,313	(1,923,787)		18,628,638	17,072,384	(1,556,254)	-8.4%	26,598,740
Other Taxes and Fees *	18,963,798	19,659,442	695,644		104,053,837	106,293,493	2,239,656	2.2%	140,329,152
Fines, Forfeits and Penalties	1,860,476	1,584,612	(275,864)		16,532,319	15,408,003	(1,124,316)	-6.8%	22,411,725
Income from Investments	34,167	107,825	73,658		731,103	809,396	78,293	10.7%	1,076,328
Transfer from Lottery Commission	5,048,125	4,494,763	(553,362)		41,191,895	44,588,607	3,396,712	8.2%	54,900,000
Transfers to Tax Relief Programs *	(1,625,138)	(11,945,434)	(10,320,296)		(64,574,478)	(62,713,194)	1,861,284	2.9%	(64,771,938)
Transfers for Municipal Revenue Sharing	(2,325,915)	(2,339,901)	(13,986)		(48,545,061)	(48,660,194)	(115,133)	-0.2%	(67,259,923)
Other Revenue *	2,826,390	1,745,086	(1,081,304)		270,974	610,877	339,903	125.4%	23,840,435
<b>Totals</b>	<b>224,184,871</b>	<b>208,703,937</b>	<b>(15,480,934)</b>		<b>2,337,990,144</b>	<b>2,348,906,990</b>	<b>10,916,846</b>	<b>0.5%</b>	<b>3,356,385,897</b>

\* Additional detail by subcategory for these categories is presented on the following page.

## General Fund Revenue Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2016 (FY 2016)

### March 2016 Revenue Variance Report

Revenue Category	March '16			Fiscal Year-To-Date			% Change from Prior Year	FY 2016 Budgeted Totals
	Budget	Actual	Variance	Budget	Actual	Variance		
<b>Detail of Other Taxes and Fees:</b>								
- Property Tax - Unorganized Territory	0	0	0	11,207,189	11,207,189	(0)	0.0%	14,225,984
- Real Estate Transfer Tax	689,880	909,813	219,933	11,787,701	12,928,355	1,140,654	9.7%	15,697,389
- Liquor Taxes and Fees	1,427,895	1,501,631	73,736	15,359,758	16,257,177	897,419	5.8%	21,214,918
- Corporation Fees and Licenses	1,731,974	1,838,173	106,199	3,905,917	4,029,733	123,816	3.2%	9,088,649
- Telecommunication Excise Tax	7,500,000	6,575,681	(924,319)	7,500,000	6,541,432	(958,568)	-12.8%	7,500,000
- Finance Industry Fees	2,195,990	2,705,150	509,160	20,263,920	22,055,980	1,792,060	8.8%	26,851,990
- Milk Handling Fee	497,139	828,205	331,066	3,866,291	3,015,297	(850,994)	-22.0%	5,357,705
- Racino Revenue	688,563	829,673	141,110	6,436,917	6,645,174	208,257	3.2%	8,761,475
- Boat, ATV and Showmobile Fees	168,522	232,697	64,175	2,597,409	2,398,749	(198,660)	-7.6%	4,523,561
- Hunting and Fishing License Fees	788,740	566,160	(222,580)	11,813,200	11,552,139	(261,061)	-2.2%	15,850,342
- Other Miscellaneous Taxes and Fees	3,275,095	3,672,260	397,165	9,315,535	9,662,270	346,735	3.7%	11,257,139
<b>Subtotal - Other Taxes and Fees</b>	<b>18,963,798</b>	<b>19,659,442</b>	<b>695,644</b>	<b>104,053,837</b>	<b>106,293,493</b>	<b>2,239,656</b>	<b>2.2%</b>	<b>140,329,152</b>
<b>Detail of Other Revenue:</b>								
- Liquor Sales and Operations	2,807	3,360	553	21,050	25,840	4,790	22.8%	9,667,500
- Targeted Case Management (DHHS)	333,207	199,638	(133,569)	1,989,255	1,533,743	(455,512)	-22.9%	2,640,000
- State Cost Allocation Program	1,698,723	1,649,892	(48,831)	13,805,471	13,700,215	(105,256)	-0.8%	18,296,832
- Unclaimed Property Transfer	0	0	0	0	0	0	N/A	7,000,000
- Tourism Transfer	0	0	0	(12,854,128)	(13,112,062)	(257,934)	-2.0%	(12,854,128)
- Transfer to Maine Milk Pool	(1,566,712)	(1,664,242)	(97,530)	(11,000,178)	(10,879,882)	120,296	1.1%	(15,709,907)
- Transfer to STAR Transportation Fund	0	0	0	(6,800,000)	(7,308,989)	(508,989)	-7.5%	(6,800,000)
- Other Miscellaneous Revenue	2,358,365	1,556,439	(801,926)	15,109,504	16,652,012	1,542,508	10.2%	21,600,138
<b>Subtotal - Other Revenue</b>	<b>2,826,390</b>	<b>1,745,086</b>	<b>(1,081,304)</b>	<b>270,974</b>	<b>610,877</b>	<b>339,903</b>	<b>125.4%</b>	<b>23,840,435</b>
<b>Detail of Transfers to Tax Relief Programs:</b>								
- Me. Resident Prop. Tax Program (Circuitbreak)	0	3,311	3,311	0	7,431	7,431	N/A	0
- BETR - Business Equipment Tax Reimb.	(1,580,517)	(7,373,122)	(5,792,605)	(33,897,978)	(34,929,729)	(1,031,751)	-3.0%	(34,000,000)
- BETE - Municipal Bus. Equip. Tax Reimb.	(44,621)	(4,575,622)	(4,531,001)	(30,676,500)	(27,790,896)	2,885,604	9.4%	(30,771,938)
<b>Subtotal - Tax Relief Transfers</b>	<b>(1,625,138)</b>	<b>(11,945,434)</b>	<b>(10,320,296)</b>	<b>(64,574,478)</b>	<b>(62,713,194)</b>	<b>1,861,284</b>	<b>2.9%</b>	<b>(64,771,938)</b>
<b>Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Revenue - Total</b>	<b>1,066,696</b>	<b>888,933</b>	<b>(177,763)</b>	<b>15,243,673</b>	<b>14,696,914</b>	<b>(546,759)</b>	<b>-3.6%</b>	<b>21,467,907</b>

## Highway Fund Revenue Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2016 (FY 2016)

### March 2016 Revenue Variance Report

Revenue Category	March '16		March '16		Fiscal Year-To-Date			FY 2016 Budgeted Totals
	Budget	Actual	Actual	Variance	Budget	Actual	Variance	
Fuel Taxes:								
- Gasoline Tax	13,899,960	14,189,369	289,409		150,261,808	150,699,517	437,709	197,254,300
- Special Fuel and Road Use Taxes	4,270,218	3,812,317	(457,901)		36,083,197	36,081,556	(1,641)	46,393,600
- Transcap Transfers - Fuel Taxes	(1,336,693)	(1,323,514)	13,179		(13,694,053)	(13,741,774)	(47,721)	(17,903,637)
- Other Fund Gasoline Tax Distributions	(347,597)	(354,834)	(7,237)		(3,757,594)	(3,771,683)	(14,089)	(4,932,738)
Subtotal - Fuel Taxes	16,485,888	16,322,338	(162,550)		168,893,358	169,267,616	374,258	220,811,525
Motor Vehicle Registration and Fees:								
- Motor Vehicle Registration Fees	5,138,444	5,998,174	859,730		47,078,942	48,157,093	1,078,151	66,732,742
- License Plate Fees	356,350	389,970	33,620		2,485,713	2,645,504	159,791	3,458,710
- Long-term Trailer Registration Fees	2,102,886	2,535,596	432,710		9,341,682	9,774,392	432,710	10,684,523
- Title Fees	1,038,627	1,379,826	341,199		9,909,857	10,251,056	341,199	13,366,264
- Motor Vehicle Operator License Fees	680,611	899,928	219,317		6,155,987	6,467,108	311,121	8,023,217
- Transcap Transfers - Motor Vehicle Fees	(3,224,514)	(3,415,360)	(190,846)		(11,126,029)	(11,356,325)	(230,296)	(15,570,414)
Subtotal - Motor Vehicle Reg. & Fees	6,092,404	7,788,134	1,695,730		63,846,152	65,938,828	2,092,676	86,695,042
Motor Vehicle Inspection Fees	164,860	232,592	67,732		2,139,320	2,742,896	603,576	2,982,500
Other Highway Fund Taxes and Fees	91,883	112,392	20,509		908,900	1,221,326	312,426	1,293,729
Fines, Forfeits and Penalties	71,714	69,332	(2,382)		589,207	586,805	(2,402)	739,039
Interest Earnings	18,545	15,252	(3,293)		190,571	143,784	(46,787)	244,945
Other Highway Fund Revenue	798,547	502,703	(295,844)		8,330,184	7,849,170	(481,014)	9,971,600
<b>Totals</b>	<b>23,723,841</b>	<b>25,043,743</b>	<b>1,319,902</b>		<b>244,897,692</b>	<b>247,750,424</b>	<b>2,852,732</b>	<b>322,738,380</b>

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session  
Legislative Council  
Pre-Cloture Bill Requests Tabled  
October 22 and November 19, 2015  
as of April 28, 2016**

**Action**

**Representative Campbell of Orrington**

LR 2330      An Act To Encourage the Development of Commercial  
Transportation Opportunities in Bucksport      TABLED 11/19/15

LR 2331      An Act To Encourage the Development of Electrical and Natural  
Gas Infrastructure in Bucksport      TABLED 11/19/15

**Representative Fowle of Vassalboro**

LR 2209      An Act To Amend the Public Safety Laws      TABLED 10/22/15

**Representative Fredette of Newport**

LR 2343      An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue to Invest in  
Marine Transportation and Port Infrastructure at Mack Point to  
Meet the Needs of the Marine Construction and Shipping Business  
Sector and to Create Jobs      TABLED 10/22/15

**Representative Gattine of Westbrook**

LR 2432      An Act To Promote the Success and Accountability of Welfare  
Reform Initiatives in Maine      TABLED 10/22/15

LR 2456      Resolve, To Improve Access to and the Quality of Services for  
Persons with Mental Illness      TABLED 11/19/15

**Representative Gideon of Freeport**

LR 2479      An Act To Make Maine Energy-independent      TABLED 11/19/15

**Representative Herbig of Belfast**

LR 2401      An Act to Provide Job Opportunities to Families Participating in  
the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program      TABLED 10/22/15

**Senator Hill of York**

LR 2408      An Act To Provide Accountability in State Government      TABLED 11/19/15

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Legislative Council**  
**Pre-Cloture Bill Requests Tabled**  
**October 22 and November 19, 2015**  
**as of April 28, 2016**

**Representative McCabe of Skowhegan**

LR 2321      An Act To Amend the Maine Criminal Code to Clarify the      TABLED 10/22/15  
                 Prohibition on the Exercise of Improper Influence

LR 2322      An Act To Ensure the Proper Functioning of State Government by      TABLED 11/19/15  
                 Ensuring Execution of Executive Branch Duties

**Representative Rotundo of Lewiston**

LR 2399      An Act To Fund and Implement Wage Adjustments for All State      TABLED 11/19/15  
                 Correctional Employees Who Perform Direct Care or Supervision

**Senator Thibodeau of Winterport**

LR 2417      An Act To Ensure Accountability in Maine's Welfare System      TABLED 10/22/15

**Representative Wadsworth of Hiram**

LR 2489      An Act To Ensure a Timely Reduction in Energy Costs for Maine      TABLED 11/19/15  
                 Consumers

**Legislative Council Actions  
Taken by Ballot Since the  
March 24, 2016 Council Meeting**

**Requests for Introduction of Legislation:**

**LR 2640      An Act to Protect Maine's Wood Products Industry**

Submitted by: Representative Sara Gideon

Approved: April 1, 2016

Vote: 7-3 in favor (with Sen. Mason, Rep. Fredette and Rep. Espling opposed)

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACTION TAKEN BY BALLOT ON  
 REQUESTS FOR LEGISLATIVE STUDIES  
 SECOND REGULAR SESSION, 127<sup>th</sup> LEGISLATURE  
 April 15, 2016 REVISED**

		<b>Action:</b>
HP 1167	Working Group to Study Child Care Background Checks	PASSED
LD 1097	“Implementation Committee” to determine feasible options for Preventing TANF program benefits, through electronic benefits transfer cards, from being used to purchase prohibited projects or services	PASSED
LD 1311	Commission to Study Maine’s Medical Malpractice Screening Panel System	FAILED
LD 1528	York County Court House Site Selection Commission	PASSED
LD 1615	Commission to Continue the Study of Difficult-to-place Patients	FAILED
LD 1629	Commission to Study the Public Reserved Lands Management Fund	PASSED
LD 1644	Commission to Study Ways to Support and Strengthen the Direct Care Workforce across the Long-term Care Continuum	FAILED
LD 1675	Task Force on Public-private Partnerships to Support Public Education	PASSED with amendment
LD 1693	Commission to Study the Economic, Environmental and Energy Benefits of the Maine Biomass Industry	PASSED
LD 997	VLA Committee Study to Streamline the Laws Governing the Licensing and Conduct of Beano and Games of Chance	FAILED
LD 1110	TRA Committee Study of Transportation Funding Reform	FAILED
LD 633	Review of calculation and transfer of savings as a result of expansion of MaineCare eligibility	FAILED

# **House and Senate Video and Audio Streaming and Recording Summary**

## **Historical Availability of Recordings**

### **Webcast/Streaming:**

- Senate and House audio and video were streamed to the web, but not recorded

### **Recordings of Senate and House Sessions:**

- Senate – Upon request provided audio and video files of recorded Senate sessions
- House – Upon request provided audio files of recorded House session

## **127<sup>th</sup> Legislature, 2<sup>nd</sup> Regular Session**

### **Webcast/Streaming:**

- Senate and House video (no separate audio streaming) were streamed to the web through Sliq Media contract and are recorded locally on Legislative Servers and remote servers hosted by Sliq Media.

### **Recordings of Senate and House Sessions:**

- Senate – Upon request continues to provide audio and video files of recorded Senate sessions (video files are the files saved through Sliq Medio)
- House – Upon request continued to provide audio files of recorded House session

### **Option for accessibility of Senate and House recorded videos:**

Sliq Media contract assumed that the Senate and House video files would be recorded and indexed by both subject and person speaking and made available on the web. Plan was to provide links to the historical chamber videos through the Legislative Calendar on the web page. That option was not available pending a Council decision, but the video files can be made available upon request. If approved by the Council links to the historical chamber sessions of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Regular Session of the 127<sup>th</sup> Legislature can be enabled.



## Summary of Key Provisions in the Contract between Maine State Legislature and Sliq Media Technologies Inc.

**Summary** : As part of an all-inclusive service agreement, Sliq Media provides all the hardware and software required to both broadcast (web) and archive all Senate and House sessions (video) and committee meetings (audio) over the internet. All recorded events are stored locally (on Legislature-owned servers) as well as on Sliq's 'Harmony Cloud Streaming Service', for (future/potential) public access. (Note: Sliq uses Amazon for cloud (server) services; safe, world-class, secure, and reliable.)

**Service Capacity**: Sliq provides unlimited live and 'video on demand' Internet streaming services for 2 video venues (House and Senate) and 14 audio-only venues (committee rooms) for the Legislature. Storage of all audio and video files on Sliq's 'cloud servers' is included in the service agreement.

**Maintenance** : The Sliq Media service agreement includes maintenance, repair and replacement of all computer hardware (audio/video encoders) used to play back and record all audio and video.

**International Roll Call (request to speak, chamber microphone interface)**: Sliq Media provides programming support for the (software) interface between the International Roll Call system and Sliq for indexing of Senate and House video.

**Licenses & Deliverables**: Sliq Media provided all audio/video equipment and software licenses required to use the Sliq platform for the duration of this agreement. (If agreement is terminated, the encoding equipment would be returned to Sliq and the Legislature would have to purchase similar equipment and develop similar functionality to broadcast legislative proceedings.)

**Services Fees**: Contract fee for covered service is \$2,700.00 US dollars per month, payable in advance, billed quarterly.

**Termination of Contract**: Contract may be terminated by either party at any time with 30 days' notice. At termination, all provided audio/video hardware that was provided as part of the Sliq service would be returned (audio/video encoders primarily). All provided services would cease on last day of month for which payment has been made.

**Audio-Video Files (Ownership and Access)**: Upon termination for contract, contract language specifies that the Legislature would have 30 days to extract and delete their collected audio and video files from the Sliq cloud servers (see contract Section 3, clause 3.2 Confidentiality; Proprietary Rights). Once deleted from Sliq's cloud servers, archived (chamber) video and (committee) audio files would no longer be available to the public through the planned configuration using Sliq Media's web site. The Legislature has the ability and rights to extract then delete these files at its discretion. The decision to store a 2<sup>nd</sup> copy of all files on local Legislature-owned servers leaves the Legislature with the ability to respond to any current/future FOAA requests. All recordings will be stored on Legislature-owned servers to comply with a formal Record Retention policy. Current Record Retention policies do not cover these recordings at this time.

## **Background on the Upgrade of Legislature's Video and Audio Webcasts Using Sliq Media Technologies**

### **Issues prompting the upgrade:**

The Legislature's hardware and software for video and audio streaming of legislative proceedings was very outdated and was getting very difficult to keep in working order. It also relied on the use of Windows Media Player, which did not work well with mobile devices and Apple products.

### **Options to address webcast issues:**

The Office of Legislative Information Technology (LIT) had reached out to an outside vendor in the past to explore options and costs for recording and archiving legislative proceedings in response to previous bills directing the Legislature to archive and make saved audio broadcasts of its proceedings available to the public. Now facing a required upgrade of its encoding hardware for webcasts, the Legislature once again explored these external options for providing improved webcasts and for archiving. Two vendors were considered: Granicus and Sliq Media Technology (Sliq). Both Granicus and Sliq were invited to come and make presentations of their services to the Secretary of the Senate, Clerk of the House, the Executive Director and LIT staff.

At the last presentation, the Secretary of the Senate and her Assistant Secretary and the Clerk of the House and his Assistant Clerk viewed the demonstration of what Sliq had implemented for some other states and other governmental entities. At the same time, Sliq and International Roll Call (IRC), Maine's vendor for chamber software and support, were promoting their cooperative efforts in some states that took the feeds from IRC chamber systems and indexed or tagged Sliq's archived video and audio files for easier search and retrieval of specific segments of text, either by indexes of either legislator speaking or calendar item.

In consultation with the Secretary, the Clerk and the Executive Director, LIT decided to go with Sliq. The delivery of Sliq webcasts are part of an all-inclusive service agreement for a monthly fee that includes all the hardware and software required to both provide webcasts and archive all Senate and House sessions (video) and committee meetings (14 audio locations). All recorded events are stored locally on Legislature's servers and on Sliq's "Harmony Cloud Streaming Service." Sliq provides programming support for the software interface between IRC system and Sliq for indexing archived Senate and House sessions. Archived committee audio is

only recorded by date and time of a broadcast meeting as there is no IRC feed to tag committee proceeds, just the calendar of committee meetings.

### **Implementation of Sliq Webcasts:**

LIT and the Executive Director entered into the contract on July 31<sup>st</sup>, the last day to take advantage of a special promotional contract offer by Sliq. Beginning in mid-August, LIT and Sliq worked through a number of implementation issues and issues have continued through the start of the session. LIT and Sliq were able to set up enough to record a basic webcast of the Senate Confirmation session on November 19<sup>th</sup>. On Monday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, LIT hosted a demonstration for Secretary, Clerk and Executive Director of the archived video of the Senate Confirmation session as indexed using IRC feeds that was on the Sliq cloud server. Executive Director sent an email the next day, December 8<sup>th</sup>, to Council members and Chiefs of Staff explaining the upgrades to the webcasts and offering to meet with them and provide a demonstration in advance of a Legislative Council meeting discussion of implementation. That discussion did not happen at the December meeting. Instead, the plan was to brief the caucuses of the upgraded webcasts and the archived video and audio files prior to implementing archiving.

In addition to Maine, several other states (Arkansas, Iowa, Kansas and New Hampshire) entered into contracts with Sliq for webcasting and archiving in 2015. Sliq's standard implementation provides streaming services and archiving of video and audio broadcasts. The streaming services are actually not live streaming services, but immediate playback of the recorded file that is used for both streaming and archiving. Eight other states have implemented Sliq services that have archived video for Legislative Chambers and also have implemented archiving of committee meetings.

Since the beginning of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Regular Session, all Senate, House and committee proceeding that have been broadcast on the web have been using the Sliq standard process and as such, an archived file was saved to Sliq cloud servers. LIT and Sliq have not yet worked out and, given the concerns expressed about recording and archiving committee proceedings, have delayed the final decision making on the necessary software and web site to make the archived files available both internally and/or to the public. Once the Council decides whether or not to archive video and audio files, LIT and Sliq will react appropriately.

If the Legislative Council decides not to archive or only archive Senate and House videos, LIT will need to evaluate whether the Sliq contract is worth continuing, versus building an in-house solution during the summer (cannot design and build home-grown system mid-session). Sliq did indicate that they could implement a streaming only service for committee hearings, but we don't have details on how that would be done. It would be different from their normal process of recoding all proceedings, as is routinely done for their customers in other states, as noted above. The Legislative Council will also need to determine what LIT and Sliq do with the current archived audio files.

**127th Maine State Legislature  
Legislative Council  
Requests to Introduce Legislation  
Second Regular Session  
As of: 4/22/2016 8:56:02 AM**

**AFTER DEADLINE BILL REQUESTS**

**SPONSOR: Rep. Phyllis A. Ginzler**

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2798	An Act To Allow Conveyance of Land Previously Conveyed by the State to the Town of Bridgton	

**JOINT RESOLUTIONS**

**SPONSOR: Sen. Justin L. Alford**

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2821	JOINT RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO FIGHT FOR STRONG ENFORCEMENT OF OUR NATION'S TRADE LAWS	

**TABLED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**

**AFTER DEADLINE BILL REQUESTS**

**SPONSOR: Sen. Justin L. Alford**

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2594	An Act To Facilitate the Timely Processing of Applications for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Benefits	Tabled 12/17/15
2595	An Act To Prohibit the Expenditure of Any Cash-based Benefits from the State on Lottery Tickets	Tabled 12/17/15
2687	An Act To Provide an Exemption from State Tax Liability for Employers Who Pay the Student Loan Debt of Their Employees	Tabled 02/25/16

**SPONSOR: Rep. Henry E. Beck**

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2638	An Act To Tax Electronic Cigarettes	Tabled 01/28/16

**SPONSOR: Sen. James F. Dill**

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2558	An Act To Provide Assistance to Laid-off Workers	Tabled 12/17/15

**SPONSOR: Rep. Michelle Ann Dunphy**

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2561	An Act To Adjust the Property Tax Valuation of Old Town Following the Closure of the Old Town Expera Pulp Mill	Tabled 12/17/15

**SPONSOR: Rep. Kenneth W. Fredette**

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2592	An Act To Create the Maine Energy Office	Tabled 12/17/15

**SPONSOR: Sen. Christopher K. Johnson**

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2789	An Act To Create a Veteran-friendly Business Designation	Tabled 03/24/16

**SPONSOR: Sen. Roger J. Katz**

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2630	An Act To Increase Access to Health Coverage for Drug Addiction Services and Qualify Maine for Federal Funding for Such Services	Tabled 01/28/16

**SPONSOR: Sen. Brian D. Langley**

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2714	An Act To Increase Education Funding	Tabled 02/25/16

**SPONSOR: Rep. Richard S. Malaby**

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2739	An Act To Develop Plans for the Expansion of Infrastructure for State Forensic and Civil Mental Health Treatment	Tabled 03/24/16

**SPONSOR: Rep. Jeff M. McCabe**

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2569	An Act To Establish a Commission on the Blind and Visually Impaired	Tabled 12/17/15

2782	An Act To Prevent the Separation of the Hydropower Assets at the Madison Paper Company for 2 Years	Tabled 03/24/16
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2783	Resolve, Directing the Department of Economic and Community Development To Work with the University of Maine System To Study the Future of the Forest Products Industry	Tabled 03/24/16
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2784	An Act To Address Job Losses and the Loss of Municipal Valuation in Mill Towns	Tabled 03/24/16
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**SPONSOR: Sen. David R. Miramant**

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2659	An Act To Expedite Health Care Programs for Maine Veterans	Tabled 02/25/16

**SPONSOR: Rep. Diane M. Russell**

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2697	An Act To Authorize the Treatment of Opioid Addiction through Medicinal Cannabis	Tabled 02/25/16

**SPONSOR: Rep. Arthur C. Verow**

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2625	An Act Concerning Visitation Rights for Adult Children of Adults under Guardianship	Tabled 01/28/16

#### JOINT RESOLUTIONS

**SPONSOR: Rep. Henry John Bear**

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2163	JOINT RESOLUTION TO ALLEVIATE TRIBAL UNEMPLOYMENT AND FUND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMS WITHIN THE HOULTON BAND OF MALISEET INDIANS BY URGING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO ESTABLISH A PROCESS TO PROVIDE EQUITABLE MALISEET LAND CLAIMS SETTLEMENT COMPENSATION FOR THE OCCUPATION AND LOSS OF NEARLY 5,000,000 ACRES OF MALISEET TRIBAL HOMELAND IN THE AROOSTOOK COUNTY REGION	Tabled 12/17/15

**SPONSOR: Rep. Jeff M. McCabe**

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2785	JOINT RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES TO ADDRESS THE NEGATIVE IMPACT OF TRADE AGREEMENTS ON MANUFACTURING IN MAINE	Tabled 03/24/16

127th Maine State Legislature  
Addendum  
Legislative Council  
Requests to Introduce Legislation  
Second Regular Session

Actions Taken After April 22, 2016

**SPONSOR:** Sen. David Woodsome

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2828	An Act To Make Technical Changes to Public Law 2015, Chapter 483	