



**Maine State Legislature**  
**OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS**

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**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Senator Margaret Rotundo, Senate Chair  
Representative Drew Gattine, House Chair  
Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs Members

**FROM:** Senator Pinny Beebe-Center, Senate Chair <sup>PBC UT</sup>  
Representative Tavis Hasenfus, House Chair <sup>TH UT</sup>  
Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety Members

**DATE:** January 27, 2025

**RE:** Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee's Recommendations on the Governor's Supplemental Budget Bill (LD 209)

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On Monday, January 27, 2025, the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety met to review the items in the Governor's Proposed Supplemental Budget (LD 209) pertaining to the agencies under the committee's jurisdiction. Please find attached the report-back worksheet indicating the committee's votes on all initiatives. The committee unanimously voted to approve initiatives 71, 72, and Part F of the General Fund Bill Language which amends Title 5 MRSA, §1536, sub-§1. Initiative 70 received a unanimous vote to pass, but with additional commentary from the committee. Initiative 63 received a split vote of 5-5 with further explanation below.

**Initiative 70**

The committee unanimously voted to approve initiative 70 and its associated language, Part J of the General Fund Bill Language. However, the committee has outstanding concerns related to the initiative and its associated language. Specifically, the committee would ask the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs Members to ensure that the requested \$5,000,000 is being transferred from the appropriate state fund source as it was not clear to the committee if this amount should be transferred from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund as requested or from a separate fund such as the Maine Budget Stabilization Fund for your due consideration.

**Initiative 63**

The committee reports a split vote on initiative 63 with 5 voting for the initiative and 5 against. The committee's primary concern is related to the reason for the increase in fuel costs. Specifically, the committee identified the reason for the additional funding amount is not solely attributable to the shifting costs of fuel, but that the Department of Corrections' internal budgeting may contribute to the department's fuel cost deficits. The committee would ask the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs to further examine the department's fuel usage, costs and how the department in past years has balanced their fuel budget by shifting surplus funds allocated for other operating costs to cover shortfalls in their fuel budget.

Thank you for considering our recommendations. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us if you have any questions regarding our recommendations.

Encl: CJPS Supplemental Budget Report Back  
C: Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety Members

Sec. A-6. Appropriations and allocations.

The following appropriations and allocations are made.

**CORRECTIONS, DEPARTMENT OF**

**Corrections Fuel Z366**

Initiative: Provides one-time funding for the increased costs of fuel.

Ref. #: 63      One Time      Committee Vote: Yes-5 No-5      AFA Vote: \_\_\_\_\_

<p><b>GENERAL FUND</b> All Other</p> <p><b>GENERAL FUND TOTAL</b></p>	<p>Yes: Sen. Beebe-Lanter Rep. Hasentus Rep. Lajaie Rep. Milliken Rep. Bunker</p>	<p>Absent: Rep. Nutting Rep. Abdi Rep. Curry</p> <hr/> <p>No: Rep. Ardell Sen. Cyrway</p>	<p>Rep. McIntyre Rep. Lockner</p>	<p>Rep. Perkins</p>	<table border="0"> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">2024-25</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2025-26</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2026-27</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">\$743,241</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$0</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$0</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3"><hr/></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">\$743,241</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$0</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$0</td> </tr> </table>	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	\$743,241	\$0	\$0	<hr/>			\$743,241	\$0	\$0
2024-25	2025-26	2026-27															
\$743,241	\$0	\$0															
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\$743,241	\$0	\$0															

**Justification:**  
When the baseline budget was compared to the current cost of average fuel usage, a shortfall was identified.

**CORRECTIONS, DEPARTMENT OF**

<p><b>DEPARTMENT TOTALS</b></p> <p><b>GENERAL FUND</b></p> <p><b>DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS</b></p>	<table border="0"> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">2024-25</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2025-26</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2026-27</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">\$743,241</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$0</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$0</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3"><hr/></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">\$743,241</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$0</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$0</td> </tr> </table>	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	\$743,241	\$0	\$0	<hr/>			\$743,241	\$0	\$0
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\$743,241	\$0	\$0											

Sec. A-7. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

**DEFENSE, VETERANS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT, DEPARTMENT OF**

**Administration - Maine Emergency Management Agency 0214**

Initiative: Provides funding for the Disaster Recovery Fund to meet state funding requirements for emergency declarations.

Ref. #: 70                      One Time                      Committee Vote: Yes - 10 No - 0                      AFA Vote: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS</b>	<i>Absent: Sen. Curry</i>	<b>2024-25</b>	<b>2025-26</b>	<b>2026-27</b>
All Other	<i>Rep. Nutting</i>	\$5,000,000	\$0	\$0
<b>OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL</b>	<i>Rep. Abd.</i>	<u>\$5,000,000</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

**Notes:**

See Part J

**Justification:**

The State has obligated the existing balance of the Disaster Recovery Fund to previously declared disasters and requires additional funding to fully fund the State cost share (15%) of disasters. The projected State cost share balance across Maine's 11 Presidentially Declared Disasters and 1 Emergency Declaration equates to \$23,670,994.

**Administration - Maine Emergency Management Agency 0214**

Initiative: Provides funding to support the activities of the Maine Emergency Management Agency in light of stagnant and reduced federal funding.

Ref. #: 71                      One Time                      Committee Vote: Yes - 11 No - 0                      AFA Vote: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<i>Absent: Rep. Abd.</i>	<b>2024-25</b>	<b>2025-26</b>	<b>2026-27</b>
All Other	<i>Rep. Nutting</i>	\$250,000	\$0	\$0
<b>GENERAL FUND TOTAL</b>		<u>\$250,000</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

**Justification:**

This initiative provides funding to support the Agency in light of largely stagnant funding levels, primarily from Federal sources, and to offset other funding reductions in the last government funding bill passed by Congress. The initiative allows the Agency to resume critical planning and training activities that have been curtailed due to projected funding shortages.

**Administration - Maine Emergency Management Agency 0214**

Initiative: Provides funding for Workers Compensation premiums for emergency management volunteers.

Ref. #: 72                      One Time                      Committee Vote: Yes - 11 No - 0                      AFA Vote: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<i>Absent: Rep. Abd.</i>	<b>2024-25</b>	<b>2025-26</b>	<b>2026-27</b>
All Other	<i>Rep. Nutting</i>	\$104,780	\$0	\$0

GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$104,780	\$0	\$0
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**Justification:**

This initiative provides funding to support Workers Compensation premiums for emergency management volunteers as defined in Title 37-B, Chapter 13, Subchapter 3, §784-A. Continued in C-A-14.

**Administration - Maine Emergency Management Agency 0214**

Initiative: Provides funding for the proposed management initiated reclassification of one State Dam Inspector, Range 31 to a State Dam Inspector, Range 33 with in the Maine Emergency Management Agency program.

Ref. #: 73                      One Time                      Committee Vote:   N/A                        AFA Vote: \_\_\_\_\_

	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
GENERAL FUND			
Personal Services	\$2,111	\$0	\$0
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$2,111	\$0	\$0

**Notes:**

Informational only. Not part of the Public Hearing. Policy Committees need not make a recommendation on Reclassification, Reorganization and Range Change initiatives.

**Justification:**

As the only position of its type, the State Dam Inspector position is incredibly unique in State Government and serves as the sole regulator of dam safety in the State of Maine. As sole regulator, this position has the ultimate responsibility to inspect existing dams and reservoirs to determine their hazard potential, review the design and construction of new and reconstructed dams, assist dam owners in developing emergency action plans to minimize the effects of dam failure and take all necessary actions in emergency situations of probable dam failure in order to protect life and property. The uniqueness of this position and the distinct skills required demands special consideration relative to classification and salary. This position also supervises agency personnel and consultants which expands the breadth and depth of the responsibilities of this position. For all these reasons, a reclassification of this position is necessary to attract and retain knowledgeable and qualified engineers. (POS#001101547). Continued to C-A-23.

**DEFENSE, VETERANS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT, DEPARTMENT OF**

	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
DEPARTMENT TOTALS			
GENERAL FUND	\$356,891	\$0	\$0
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	\$5,000,000	\$0	\$0
DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$5,356,891	\$0	\$0

**Sec. A-21. Appropriations and allocations.**

The following appropriations and allocations are made.

**PUBLIC SAFETY, DEPARTMENT OF**

**Fire Marshal - Office of 0327**

Initiative: Provides funding for the approved reclassification of 12 Public Safety Inspector II positions from Range 20 to Range 25 retroactive to June 27, 2023.

Ref. #: 236                      One Time                      Committee Vote:   N/A                        AFA Vote: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2024-25</b>	<b>2025-26</b>	<b>2026-27</b>
Personal Services	\$155,641	\$0	\$0
<b>GENERAL FUND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$155,641</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

Ref. #: 237                      One Time                      Committee Vote:   N/A                        AFA Vote: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS</b>	<b>2024-25</b>	<b>2025-26</b>	<b>2026-27</b>
Personal Services	\$461,534	\$0	\$0
All Other	\$2,733	\$0	\$0
<b>OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL</b>	<b>\$464,267</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**Notes:**

Informational only. Not part of the Public Hearing. Policy Committees need not make a recommendation on Reclassification, Reorganization and Range Change initiatives.

**Justification:**

This reclassification is an employee-initiated reclassification from Range 20 to Range 25. This reclassification is retroactive to June 27, 2023 and has been approved by the Bureau of Human Resources. This initiative also put into 2026-2027 biennium, C-A-8.

**PUBLIC SAFETY, DEPARTMENT OF**

<b>DEPARTMENT TOTALS</b>	<b>2024-25</b>	<b>2025-26</b>	<b>2026-27</b>
<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>\$155,641</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS</b>	<b>\$464,267</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS</b>	<b>\$619,908</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**PART F**

**Sec. F-1. 5 MRSA §1536, sub-§1**, as amended by PL 2021, c. 398, Part ZZZ, §3, is further amended to read:

1. Final priority reserves. After the transfers to the State Contingent Account pursuant to section 1507, the transfers to the Loan Insurance Reserve pursuant to section 1511, the transfers pursuant to section 1522, a transfer of \$2,500,000 for the Reserve for General Fund Operating Capital, a transfer of \$3,000,000 to the Disaster Recovery Fund, Other Special Revenue Funds account within the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management and the transfers to the Retiree Health Insurance Internal Service Fund pursuant to section 1519, the State Controller shall transfer at the close of each fiscal year from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund an amount equal to the amount available from the unappropriated surplus after all required deductions of appropriations, budgeted financial commitments and adjustments considered necessary by the State Controller have been made as follows:

A. Eighty percent to the stabilization fund; and

B.

C.

D.

E.

F.

G. Twenty percent to the Highway and Bridge Capital program, Other Special Revenue Funds account.

**PART F  
SUMMARY**

This Part establishes a \$3 million transfer to the Disaster Recovery Fund, Other Special Revenue Funds account within the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management to fund the State's share of disaster recovery costs.

yes - 11      Absent: Rep. Nutting  
no - 0              S Rep. Abd.

**PART J**

**Sec. J-1. Transfer from the General Fund unappropriated surplus; Disaster Recovery Fund.** Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, on or before June 30, 2025 the State controller shall transfer \$5,000,000 from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the Disaster Recovery Fund, Other Special Revenue Funds account within the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management to fund the State's share of estimated disaster recovery costs.

**PART J  
SUMMARY**

This Part transfers \$5,000,000 from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the Disaster Recovery Fund, Other Special Revenue Funds account within the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management to fund the State's share of estimated disaster recovery costs.

Yes - 10

No - 0

Absent: Rep. Notting  
Sen. Cory  
Rep. Abd.