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STATE OF MAINE  
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE  
COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

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

FROM: Senator Anne M. Carney, Senate Chair *AC*<sup>25</sup>  
Representative Amy S. Kuhn, House Chair *AK*<sup>25</sup>  
Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary

DATE: January 23, 2025

RE: Recommendations on the Governor's Proposed Supplemental Budget, LD 209,  
An Act to Make Supplemental Appropriations and Allocations from the General  
Fund and Other Funds for the Expenditures of State Government and to Change  
Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State  
Government for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2025

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On Wednesday, January 22, 2025, the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary met to review the items in the Governor's Proposed Supplemental Budget (LD 209) pertaining to the agencies under the Judiciary Committee's jurisdiction. As you can see in the attached voting sheet, the members of the committee present<sup>1</sup> unanimously voted to support each initiative and language part within its portion of the supplemental budget, with one exception: The committee members present and voting unanimously voted in support of an amended version of language Part P.

**Proposed Amendment to Language Part P**

As originally drafted, Part P of the Governor's proposed supplemental budget authorizes the Maine Commission on Public Defense Services (PDS) to carry forward any remaining balance in the Personal Services line category of its budget at the end of FY25 to FY26. Part P also authorizes PDS to transfer these carried forward funds to the All Other line category of its budget during FY26, allowing PDS to use these funds to pay attorney vouchers *during* FY26. As you may know, the attorneys who submit vouchers to PDS are fulfilling the State's constitutional and statutory obligations to provide representation to certain criminal defendants, juvenile defendants, juveniles seeking emancipation, parents in child protective cases and individuals facing involuntary commitment to a psychiatric hospital who have been determined to be indigent and unable to afford their own counsel.

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<sup>1</sup> The following Judiciary Committee members were present at the work session: Senators Carney and Haggan and Representatives Kuhn, Babin, Caruso, Dana, Henderson, O'Halloran, Pugh, Sato and Sinclair. Absent from the work session were Senator Talbot Ross as well as Representatives Poirier and Lee.

At our supplemental budget work session, PDS Deputy Executive Director Eleanor B. Maciag presented a proposed amendment to Language Part P that would accomplish two goals:

- First, the language of newly revised Section P-1 would authorize PDS to transfer up to \$5.3 million of available balances of appropriations in the Personal Services line category of PDS's budget to the All Other line category of its budget *during FY25*. PDS anticipates a shortfall in the funds available in the All Other account for paying the attorney vouchers it expects to receive before the end of FY25. If Language Part P is enacted as written, PDS will have to wait until FY26 to repay many of these vouchers. The amended language of Section P-1 will instead allow PDS to pay these attorney vouchers in FY25. It is imperative that the State, which has recently been found in violation of the Sixth Amendment due to the insufficient number of attorneys able and willing to take PDS case assignments, avoid actions that might exacerbate the situation.

It is important to note that the \$5.3 million amount PDS would be authorized to transfer through amended Section P-1 includes the \$2.5 million that PDS has previously been authorized to transfer from available balances its Personal Services line category for FY25 to the All Other line category through [P.L. 2023, ch. 643, §WW](#) (supplemental budget for FY24 and FY25) (excerpt attached). Accordingly, the goal of amended Section P-1 is to increase PDS's authority to transfer funds during FY25 from Personal Services to All Other from \$2.5 million (current) to \$5.3 million (amended Section P-1).

- Second, the language of new Section P-2 would accomplish the goal set forth in the Governor's proposed language Part P—*i.e.*, Section P-2 would allow PDS to carry over any unspent balances in the Personal Services line category of its budget at the end of FY25 to FY26 and transfer those funds to the All Other line category of its budget. The Judiciary Committee believes it is important to include this provision in the supplemental budget because PDS anticipates that there will be an ongoing shortfall in the amount of funding PDS has available to pay attorney vouchers. Indeed, we anticipate that additional funding will be requested to address this shortfall in the biennial budget.

Thank you for your consideration of our report. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us if you have any questions.

c: Members, Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary (*via email*)

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

ATTORNEY GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF THE

Administration - Attorney General 0310 (vote with Ref #57) 1st initiative page A-8  
 on the next page

Initiative: Transfers one Research Assistant MSEA-B position from the Human Services Division program, Other Special Revenue Funds to the Administration - Attorney General program, General Fund and reduces funding for related All Other costs.

Ref. #: 52                      One Time                      Committee Vote IN 11-0                      AFA Vote \_\_\_\_\_

<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	Absent: RTR, JP, AL	<b>2024-25</b>	<b>2025-26</b>	<b>2026-27</b>
POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT		1.000	0.000	0.000
Personal Services		\$28,646	\$0	\$0
<b>GENERAL FUND TOTAL</b>	Voted Jointly With Ref. #57	<u>\$28,646</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

**Justification:**

This request transfers and reallocates the cost of one Research Assistant MSEA-B Victim Witness Advocate Coordinator position from the Human Services Division program, Other Special Revenue Funds to the Administration - Attorney General, General Fund due to receiving notice that the position can no longer be funded through the Department of Health and Human Services but the need for the position is vital. This position provides technical assistance and training for victim witness advocates in Maine statewide.

Administration - Attorney General 0310

2nd initiative page A-8

Initiative: Provides funding for the approved reclassification of one Research Assistant MSEA-B position to a Research Assistant MSEA-D position, retroactive to February 9, 2024.

Ref. #: 53                      One Time                      Committee Vote No vote taken                      AFA Vote \_\_\_\_\_

<b>GENERAL FUND</b>		<b>2024-25</b>	<b>2025-26</b>	<b>2026-27</b>
Personal Services		\$10,233	\$0	\$0
<b>GENERAL FUND TOTAL</b>		<u>\$10,233</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

**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 initiative provides funding for the approved reclassification of one Research Assistant MSEA-B position to a Research Assistant MSEA-D position. This consists of a range change from spec 4 range 25 to spec 9 range 28 to better align the position operations and job duties.

Chief Medical Examiner - Office of 0412

3rd initiative page A-8

Initiative: Provides funding to cover an increase in toxicology expenses.

Ref. #: 55                      One Time                      Committee Vote IN 11-0                      AFA Vote \_\_\_\_\_

Absent: RTR, JP, AL

GENERAL FUND	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$52,195	\$0	\$0
<b>GENERAL FUND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$52,195</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**Justification:**

The Office of Chief Medical Examiner (OCME) is seeing an increase in the number of death investigations requiring toxicology testing annually. Additionally, in January 2025, NMS Labs is implementing a 4% price increase for all toxicology testing.

**Human Services Division 0696** (vote with Ref. #52 on previous page) last initiative page A-8

Initiative: Transfers one Research Assistant MSEA-B position from the Human Services Division program, Other Special Revenue Funds to the Administration - Attorney General program, General Fund and reduces funding for related All Other costs.

Ref. #: 57      One Time      Committee Vote IN 11-0      AFA Vote \_\_\_\_\_

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	(1,000)	0.000	0.000
Personal Services	(\$28,646)	\$0	\$0
All Other	(\$676)	\$0	\$0
<b>OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL</b>	<b>(\$29,322)</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

Absent: RTR, AL, JP  
Voted with Ref # 52

**Justification:**

This request transfers and reallocates the cost of one Research Assistant MSEA-B Victim Witness Advocate Coordinator position from the Human Services Division program, Other Special Revenue Funds to the Administration - Attorney General, General Fund due to receiving notice that the position can no longer be funded through the Department of Health and Human Services but the need for the position is vital. This position provides technical assistance and training for victim witness advocates in Maine statewide.

**ATTORNEY GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF THE**

DEPARTMENT TOTALS	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
GENERAL FUND	\$91,074	\$0	\$0
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	(\$29,322)	\$0	\$0
<b>DEPARTMENT TOTAL- ALL FUNDS</b>	<b>\$61,752</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

Sec. A-15. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

**JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT**

*3<sup>rd</sup> initiative page A-33*

**Courts - Supreme, Superior and District 0063**

Initiative: Provides funding for a volume increase in guardian ad litem, interpreter and mental health examiner services.

Ref. #: 191                      One Time                      Committee Vote IN 11-0                      AFA Vote \_\_\_\_\_

<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<i>Absent: RTR, AL, JP</i>	<b>2024-25</b>	<b>2025-26</b>	<b>2026-27</b>
All Other		\$350,000	\$0	\$0
<b>GENERAL FUND TOTAL</b>		<u>\$350,000</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

**Justification:**

Funding is needed to cover the volume increase in guardian ad litem, interpreter and mental health examiner services. There is an increased demand for court services and as the Judicial Branch works to alleviate the backlog of cases it is anticipated that there will be a correlating increase in service costs.

**Courts - Supreme, Superior and District 0063**

*2<sup>nd</sup> initiative page A-34*

Initiative: Provides funding for increased lease costs.

Ref. #: 192                      One Time                      Committee Vote IN 11-0                      AFA Vote \_\_\_\_\_

<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<i>Absent: RTR, AL, JP</i>	<b>2024-25</b>	<b>2025-26</b>	<b>2026-27</b>
All Other		\$90,000	\$0	\$0
<b>GENERAL FUND TOTAL</b>		<u>\$90,000</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

**Justification:**

This request seeks funding for increased lease costs for multiple courthouse locations across the State (Bridgton, Caribou, Fort Kent, Rockland, and Portland) and for the Portland Administrative Office of the Courts. There is an immediate need for funding combined with request in Biennial Budget. This request stages the cost over time rather than one lump sum.

**Courts - Supreme, Superior and District 0063**

*5<sup>th</sup> initiative page A-33*

Initiative: Provides funding for security equipment including ammunition, shields, rifles, trauma kits, radios, tasers and body armor.

Ref. #: 193                      One Time                      Committee Vote IN 11-0                      AFA Vote \_\_\_\_\_

<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<i>Absent: RTR, AL, JP</i>	<b>2024-25</b>	<b>2025-26</b>	<b>2026-27</b>
All Other		\$147,079	\$0	\$0
<b>GENERAL FUND TOTAL</b>		<u>\$147,079</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>



**Justification:**

Security at our facilities remains a top priority. Due to recent active shooter events, the Judicial Branch is preparing for safety readiness planning. This request seeks funding to replenish supplies and replace aging equipment, firearm supplies, trauma kits, and body armor. The supplies help protect the judicial marshals and the public from violent incidents. There is an immediate need for funding combined with request in Biennial Budget. This request stages the cost over time rather than one lump sum.

**Courts - Supreme, Superior and District 0063**

*9th initiative page A-33*

Initiative: Provides one-time funding for tenant improvements.

Ref. #: 194      One Time      Committee Vote IN 11-0      AFA Vote \_\_\_\_\_

GENERAL FUND	Absent: RTR, AL, JP	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
All Other		\$126,500	\$0	\$0
<b>GENERAL FUND TOTAL</b>		<b>\$126,500</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**Justification:**

This is a one-time request for tenant improvements. Improvements are often done on a cost-sharing basis with the landlord and are necessary to keep courthouses, functional, safe and ADA compliant. Funds in this initiative are for an elevator overhaul and HVAC installation in the Machias courthouse; Tree work, carpet updates, and LED lighting in Knox County Courthouse; and HVAC for server room in Androscoggin County.

**Courts - Supreme, Superior and District 0063**

*Last initiative page A-33*

Initiative: Provides one-time funding for Google Enterprise Licensing costs.

Ref. #: 195      One Time      Committee Vote IN 11-0      AFA Vote \_\_\_\_\_

GENERAL FUND	Absent: RTR, AL, JP	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
All Other		\$100,000	\$0	\$0
<b>GENERAL FUND TOTAL</b>		<b>\$100,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**Justification:**

This is a one-time request for Gmail licensing. The Judicial Branch is moving from Google to Microsoft 365. We expect this migration to be completed by the end of FY26. At the completion of the migration, the Judicial Branch will no longer require Google licensing.

**Courts - Supreme, Superior and District 0063**

*1st initiative page A-55*

Initiative: Provides one-time funding for Microsoft 365 migration costs.

Ref. #: 196      One Time      Committee Vote IN 11-0      AFA Vote \_\_\_\_\_

GENERAL FUND	Absent: RTR, AL, JP	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
All Other		\$100,000	\$0	\$0

GENERAL FUND TOTAL

\$100,000

\$0

\$0

**Justification:**

This request is to enhance security and reduce redundant ongoing licensing costs. The Judicial Branch is transitioning away from Google's G-suite platform and migrating to the Microsoft Office 365 environment (the platform in which most of the enterprise and government world resides). Although emails were successfully transitioned in 2023, the Judicial Branch needs to hire multiple outside contractors to complete a successful Office 365 transition from Google Sites to SharePoint; Google Files to OneDrive; Google Groups to MS Groups; and Google Calendars to MS Calendars. This is a one-time expenditure to complete the transition so that the Judicial Branch will no longer require Google licenses.

**Courts - Supreme, Superior and District 0063**

1<sup>st</sup> initiative page A-34

Initiative: Provides funding for the approved reclassification of one Court Access Coordinator position from range 19 to range 20, retroactive to September 5, 2023.

Ref. #: 197      One Time      Committee Vote: No vote taken      AFA Vote \_\_\_\_\_

GENERAL FUND	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
Personal Services	\$28,676	\$0	\$0
<b>GENERAL FUND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$28,676</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 initiative provides funding for the reclass of the Court Access Coordinator position. This position provides oversight and management of legal programs consistent with other program managers, and works closely with judicial and administrative leadership, judges, clerks, administrators and stakeholders to ensure legal compliance and to mitigate legal and financial risk to the Judicial Branch. The work performed in this position requires specialized legal expertise, and is consistent in scope/responsibility, critical thinking, freedom to act, and accountability of the Grade 20 confidential management positions.

**Courts - Supreme, Superior and District 0063**

6<sup>th</sup> initiative page A-33

Initiative: Provides funding for the approved reorganization of one Assistant Clerk position to an Associate Clerk position.

Ref. #: 198      One Time      Committee Vote: No vote taken      AFA Vote \_\_\_\_\_

GENERAL FUND	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
Personal Services	\$6,634	\$0	\$0
<b>GENERAL FUND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$6,634</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 initiative provides funding for reclass of 1 Assistant Clerk Position. The Assistant Clerk position assigned to the Business and Consumer Docket requires a high level of expertise in handling complex civil cases, expanded involvement in proceedings and with judges and therefore necessitates a reclassification to represent the advanced skills and multifaceted responsibilities more appropriate to the Associate Clerk job classification.

**Courts - Supreme, Superior and District 0063**

*4th initiative page A-33*

Initiative: Provides funding for the approved reorganization of one Help Desk Support Lead position to a Help Desk Lead position.

Ref. #: 199                      One Time                      Committee Vote   No vote taken                        AFA Vote \_\_\_\_\_

GENERAL FUND	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
Personal Services	\$8,091	\$0	\$0
<b>GENERAL FUND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$8,091</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 initiative provides funding for the reclass of 1 Help Desk Lead position. IT support needs have expanded considerably, and the Help Desk Support Lead now fully supervises the Helpdesk staff and takes the lead role in supporting, training, and supervising the Helpdesk team. Additionally, this position has taken on responsibilities like those of a Field Technician I, which is compensated at Grade 16. Increased duties include Tier 2 support for numerous systems (courtroom Audio/Video, FTR systems, VOIP phones, etc.) and Help Desk administrative/organizational responsibilities (updating Helpdesk procedures/Knowledge Base, analyzing ticket survey reports, ordering equipment, and processing invoices). These additional assignments demand a broad range of specialized skills and responsibilities.

**Courts - Supreme, Superior and District 0063**

*(Vote Ref. ## 200+201 together)*

*2nd initiative page A-33*

Initiative: Provides funding for the approved reorganization of one Court Operations Specialist position to a Court Operations Analyst position. This initiative also provides funding for related All Other costs.

Ref. #: 200                      One Time                      Committee Vote   No vote taken                        AFA Vote \_\_\_\_\_

GENERAL FUND	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
Personal Services	\$3,557	\$0	\$0
<b>GENERAL FUND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,557</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

Ref. #: 201                      One Time                      Committee Vote   No vote taken                        AFA Vote \_\_\_\_\_

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
Personal Services	\$14,223	\$0	\$0
All Other	\$132	\$0	\$0
<b>OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL</b>	<b>\$14,355</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 initiative provides funding for Court Operations Position. Job responsibilities have changed from providing technical assistance and training to assisting in the identification and implementation of quality improvement practices and procedures associated with case processing standards; assists in analyzing management reports and implementing court improvement recommendations; assists in supporting policies and procedures that enhance consistent, timely and accurate statewide standards for effective case processing; and makes recommendations regarding policies, procedures, staff training and other resource needs based on caseload data, including court forms. New tasks are more appropriate to the Court Operations Analyst job classification.

**Courts - Supreme, Superior and District 0063**

*7th initiative page A-33*

Initiative: Provides funding for the approved reorganization of one Deputy Chief Marshal position from range 19 to range 20.

Ref. #: 202                      One Time                      Committee Vote: No vote taken                      AFA Vote: \_\_\_\_\_

GENERAL FUND	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
Personal Services	\$10,545	\$0	\$0
<b>GENERAL FUND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$10,545</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 initiative provides funding for the reclass of the Deputy Chief position. This request is driven by the additional duties performed by the Chief Deputy, including the addition of oversight of the Major position and subsequently the entire Northern region of the state. The work performed in this position requires specialized expertise, and is consistent in scope/responsibility, critical thinking, freedom to act, and accountability of the Grade 20 confidential management positions.

**JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT**

DEPARTMENT TOTALS	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
GENERAL FUND	\$971,082	\$0	\$0
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	\$14,355	\$0	\$0
<b>DEPARTMENT TOTAL- ALL FUNDS</b>	<b>\$985,437</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

Sec. A-20. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

**INDIGENT LEGAL SERVICES, MAINE COMMISSION ON**

*Budget page A-42*

**Maine Commission on Indigent Legal Services Z112**

Initiative: Provides allocation to align with projected resources.

Ref. #: 157                      One Time                      Committee Vote No vote taken AFA Vote \_\_\_\_\_

<b>FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND</b>	<b>2024-25</b>	<b>2025-26</b>	<b>2026-27</b>
All Other	\$125,000	\$0	\$0
<b>FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$125,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**Notes:**

*\** Informational only. Not part of the Public Hearing. Policy Committees need not make a recommendation on initiatives that align Federal Expenditure Funds allocations with projected resources.

**Justification:**

This initiative provides allocation to allow for program to utilize grant funding that has recently been awarded.

**INDIGENT LEGAL SERVICES, MAINE COMMISSION ON**

<b>DEPARTMENT TOTALS</b>	<b>2024-25</b>	<b>2025-26</b>	<b>2026-27</b>
<b>FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND</b>	<b>\$125,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>DEPARTMENT TOTAL- ALL FUNDS</b>	<b>\$125,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

See Also  
Language Parts O + P

**PART O**

**Sec. O-1. Rename Reserve for Indigent Legal Services.** Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the Reserve for Indigent Legal Services program, within the Maine Commission on Public Defense Services is renamed Reserve for Public Defense Services.

**PART O  
SUMMARY**

This section renames the Reserve for Indigent Legal Services program to the Reserve for Public Defense Services consistent with the Commission's name change enacted in Public Law 2023, chapter 558.

Part O JUD vote: IN 11-0 Absent: RTR, AL, JP

**PART P**

**Sec. P-1. Carrying balance in fiscal year 2024-25; Maine Commission on Public Defense Services.** Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, at the end of fiscal year 2024-25, the State Controller shall carry forward for the Maine Commission on Public Defense Services any remaining balance in the Personal Services line category in the Maine Commission on Public Defense Services program, General Fund account to the next fiscal year. The Commission is authorized to transfer these funds to the All Other line category in order to fund contractual services. These amounts may be transferred by financial order upon the recommendation of the State Budget Officer and approval of the Governor. These transfers are not considered adjustments to appropriations.

**PART P  
SUMMARY**

This Part authorizes the Maine Commission on Public Defense Services to carry any remaining balance in the Personal Services line category for fiscal year 2024-25 in order to fund contractual services that may be needed if vacancies occur.

Part P JUD vote: IN as amended 10-0  
(see memo)

Absent: RTR, AL, JP

Abstain based on appearance of a conflict: DS

**PART P**

**Sec. P-1. Transfer of Personal Services balances to All Other; Maine Commission on Public Defense Services.** Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, for fiscal year 2024-25, the Maine Commission on Public Defense Services is authorized to transfer up to \$5.3 million of available balances of appropriations in the Personal Services line category in the Maine Commission on Public Defense Services program, after all financial commitments for salary, benefit and other obligations have been met, to the All Other line category in order to fund costs associated with assigned legal counsel. These amounts may be transferred by financial order upon the recommendation of the State Budget Officer and approval of the Governor. These transfers are not considered adjustments to appropriations

**Sec. P-2. Carrying balance in fiscal year 2024-25; Maine Commission on Public Defense Services.** Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, at the end of fiscal year 2024-25, the State Controller shall carry forward for the Maine Commission on Public Defense Services any remaining balance in the Personal Services line category in the Maine Commission on Public Defense Services program, General Fund account to the next fiscal year. The Commission is authorized to transfer these funds to the All Other line category in order to fund contractual services. These amounts may be transferred by financial order upon the recommendation of the State Budget Officer and approval of the Governor. These transfers are not considered adjustments to appropriations.

**PART P SUMMARY**

This Part authorizes the Maine Commission on Public Defense Services to transfer \$5.3 million in Personal Services balances to All Other in fiscal year 2024-25 to fund costs associated with assigned legal counsel, and to carry any remaining balance in the Personal Services line category for fiscal year 2024-25 in order to fund contractual services that may be needed if vacancies occur.

**Sec. VV-1. Emergency rule-making authority; health and human services matters.** The Department of Health and Human Services is authorized to adopt emergency rules under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 8054 and emergency major substantive rules under Title 5, section 8073, as applicable, determined necessary by the department to implement those provisions of this Act over which the department has subject matter jurisdiction for which specific authority has not been provided in any other Part of this Act, notwithstanding the requirement that the department demonstrate that immediate adoption is necessary to avoid a threat to public health, safety or general welfare.

#### **PART WW**

**Sec. WW-1. Transfer of Personal Services balances to All Other; Maine Commission on Indigent Legal Services, Maine Commission on Indigent Legal Services.** Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, for fiscal year 2024-25 only, the Maine Commission on Indigent Legal Services is authorized to transfer up to \$2,500,000 of available balances of appropriations in the Personal Services line category in the Maine Commission on Indigent Legal Services program, after all financial commitments for salary, benefit and other obligations have been met, to the All Other line category in order to fund costs associated with assigned legal counsel. These amounts may be transferred by financial order upon the recommendation of the State Budget Officer and approval of the Governor. These transfers are not considered adjustments to appropriations.

**Sec. WW-2. Rename Maine Commission on Indigent Legal Services.** Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the Maine Commission on Indigent Legal Services program within the Maine Commission on Public Defense Services is renamed Maine Commission on Public Defense Services.

**Sec. WW-3. Retroactivity.** That section of this Part that renames the Maine Commission on Indigent Legal Services applies retroactively to March 21, 2024.

#### **PART XX**

**Sec. XX-1. Transfer of Personal Services balances to All Other; Judicial Department, Courts - Supreme, Superior and District; fiscal year 2023-24.** Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, for fiscal year 2023-24 only, the Judicial Department is authorized to transfer up to \$493,603 of available balances of appropriations in the Personal Services line category in the Courts - Supreme, Superior and District program, after all financial commitments for salary, benefit and other obligations have been made, to the All Other line category in order to fund temporary clerk services and marshal services contracts. These amounts may be transferred by financial order upon the recommendation of the State Budget Officer and approval of the Governor. These transfers are not considered adjustments to appropriations.

**Sec. XX-2. Transfer of Personal Services balances to All Other; Judicial Department, Courts - Supreme, Superior and District; fiscal year 2024-25.** Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, for fiscal year 2024-25 only, the Judicial Department is authorized to transfer up to \$575,000 of available balances of appropriations in the Personal Services line category in the Courts - Supreme, Superior and District program, after all financial commitments for salary, benefit and other obligations have been made, to the All Other line category in order to fund temporary clerk services and marshal services contracts. These amounts may be transferred by financial order upon