

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS**

**Margaret Rotundo, Senate Chair**

**Drew Gattine, House Chair**

**Majlinda Mulla-Everett, Committee Clerk**  
**Lucia Nixon, Principal Analyst**

**Phone: 287-1635, email: [afa@legislature.maine.gov](mailto:afa@legislature.maine.gov)**

**LD 2212 An Act Making Unified Supplemental Appropriations and Allocations for the Expenditures of State Government, General Fund and Other Funds, and Changing Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 2026 and June 30, 2027**

**REVISED (Snow Day Rescheduled to 2/27)**

**SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING SCHEDULE**

The proposed budget initiatives and language may be viewed on-line here:

<https://legislature.maine.gov/ros/2026-27-supplemental-gf-budget-docs/12583>

**PLEASE NOTE:** The Joint Public Hearing Schedule is broken up into multiple "BLOCKS" each day with a distinct START TIME for each Policy Committee block. When SIGNING UP TO TESTIFY or SUBMITTING TESTIMONY ON-LINE, make sure to select START TIME that aligns with the BLOCK that includes the Program or Language Part related to your Testimony (see detailed list below).

**PLEASE NOTE:** The following types of budget initiatives are NOT scheduled for public hearing: Part A initiatives related to approved position reclassifications, reorganizations or range changes; Part B initiatives (reclassifications). Written testimony regarding any of these initiatives may be submitted under the "AFA Only" TIME BLOCK.

**Testifying on Zoom and/or Submitting Testimony On-line:** Use the link below to sign-up to testify on Zoom and/or submit written testimony. You must sign-up to testify on Zoom AT LEAST 30 MINUTES before the posted START TIME of the hearing BLOCK. Again, make sure you sign-up for the BLOCK related to your testimony. When it is approaching your turn to speak, the Chair will call your name and the Clerk will move you from attendee to panelist on Zoom. Please make sure your name is listed correctly on Zoom and have your video turned on, so that the Chair knows you are ready. When you are done speaking, please exit the Zoom meeting and watch the livestream (see "Livestream" below).

[Testify on Zoom and/or Submit Testimony https://www.mainelegislature.org/testimony/](https://www.mainelegislature.org/testimony/)

**Testifying in Person:** Sign-up to testify in person using the hard copy sign-up sheets that will be available in the AFA committee room, State House Room 228 (or at a table just outside the committee room). Each hearing BLOCK will have a separate sign-up sheet that will be made available 30 minutes before the START TIME of the hearing block. *Please note: you may only enter your own name on the sign-up sheet, or the name of an individual who requires accommodation.* **Please bring 40 copies of your written testimony** (20 for each committee) and provide these to the Committee Clerk when you come up to testify. Please note: if the AFA committee room is full, you will be asked to wait and listen to the hearing in a designated "overflow room" until it is time for you to testify or until seating becomes available (staff will inform the overflow room if seating is available).

**Accommodations:** Persons wishing to participate in a Legislative hearing who require accommodations should notify the Legislative Information Office as soon as possible at: 207-287-1692, FAX 207-287-1580, [lio@legislature.maine.gov](mailto:lio@legislature.maine.gov).

**Livestream:** You may access the livestream (or recording) of Legislative Committee meetings on the Legislature's Calendar at the link below (or from the Legislature's home page, click Calendar at the top of the page). On the Calendar, navigate to the meeting's Date and Time, then click the "play" button for YouTube or the "speaker" button for Legislative streaming.



<https://legislature.maine.gov/Calendar/>



**ACTUAL START TIMES MAY BE DELAYED DUE TO TECHNICAL ISSUES OR  
PRIOR HEARING BLOCKS TAKING LONGER THAN PLANNED**

**10:00 AM Tuesday, February 17, 2026**

**(Note: Department & Agency testimony will be on all categories within this block before public testimony)**

**To be held in conjunction with the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services:**

**NON-DHHS DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES**

**Administrative and Financial Services, Department of**  
Developmental Services Oversight and Advisory Board

**Disability Rights Maine**  
Disability Rights Maine

**DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES**

**Health and Human Services, Department of**  
Residential Treatment Facilities Assessment

**ADULT BEHAVIORAL HEALTH**

**Health and Human Services, Department of**  
Consent Decree  
Disproportionate Share – Dorothea Dix Psychiatric Center  
Disproportionate Share – Riverview Psychiatric Center  
Dorothea Dix Psychiatric Center  
Housing First Program  
Mental Health Services – Community  
Office of Behavioral Health  
Riverview Psychiatric Center

**1:00 PM Tuesday, February 17, 2026**

**(Note: Department & Agency testimony will be on all categories within this block before public testimony)**

**To be held in conjunction with the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services:**

**MAINECARE**

**Health and Human Services, Department of**  
Office of MaineCare Services  
Developmental Services Waiver - MaineCare  
Developmental Services Waiver – Supports  
Lifespan Waiver  
Medicaid Services – Developmental Services  
Medicaid Waiver for Brain Injury Residential/Community Services  
Medicaid Waiver for Other Related Conditions  
Medical Care - Payments to Providers  
Mental Health Services – Child Medicaid  
Mental Health Services – Community Medicaid  
Nursing Facilities  
Office of Behavioral Health-Medicaid Seed  
PNMI Room and Board  
Traumatic Brain Injury Seed

*Language Parts*

*L This part changes the base year for the hospital tax from hospital fiscal year 2022 to hospital fiscal year 2024. This change is effective beginning with the May 15, 2026 payment.*

WW	<i>This Part requires the Department of Health and Human Services to establish reimbursement rates for Maine Veterans' Homes nursing facility services covered by the MaineCare program. It requires the MaineCare program to reimburse veterans' facilities for covered nursing home services on a per resident daily rate basis that is reasonable and adequate to cover the total MaineCare allowable costs of operating veterans' facilities. This Part also requires the Department to make a one-time supplemental payment to Maine Veterans Home residential care facilities in fiscal year 2026-2027 to cover the difference between MaineCare payments and actual allowed MaineCare costs. Lastly, this Part directs the department to use funds previously appropriated for supplemental payments to Maine Veterans' Homes Nursing facilities for the purposes of this Part.</i>
AAA	<i>PL 2025, c. 388 appropriated funding for supplemental payments to private psychiatric hospitals. This act provides additional funding for supplemental payments, and this part clarifies that the total supplemental payment amount includes appropriations from multiple acts.</i>
EEE	<i>This Part authorizes the Department of Health and Human Services to transfer Personal Services to the All Other and Capital Expenditures line categories in order to fund the replacement of the camera and access control system at Dorothea Dix Psychiatric Center, rate determinations for MaineCare services and a comprehensive benchmarking analysis for Medicaid rates.</i>
<b>10:00 AM Wednesday, February 18, 2026</b>	
<b>(Note: Department &amp; Agency testimony will be on all categories within this block before public testimony)</b>	
<b>To be held in conjunction with the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services:</b>	
<b>PUBLIC HEALTH</b>	
<b>Health and Human Services, Department of</b>	
Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention	
Universal Childhood Immunization Program	
<b>PUBLIC ASSISTANCE</b>	
<b>Health and Human Services, Department of</b>	
Food Supplement Administration	
Office for Family Independence	
Office for Family Independence - District	
<i>Language Parts</i>	
XX	<i>This Part permits the Department to directly issue an annual heating assistance payment to SNAP households.</i>
YY	<i>This part removes the legislative requirement for the Department of Health and Human Services to provide \$3,000,000 to Maine State Housing Authority for use in programs under their jurisdiction.</i>
CCC	<i>This Part lapses \$1,000,000 of the unencumbered balance forward within the State Supplement to Federal Supplemental Security Income program, General Fund account to the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund no later than June 30, 2027.</i>
<b>ELDER SERVICES</b>	
<b>Health and Human Services, Department of</b>	
Long Term Care - Office of Aging and Disability Services	
Low-Cost Drugs to Maine's Elderly	
<b>1:00 PM Wednesday, February 18, 2026</b>	
<b>(Note: Department &amp; Agency testimony will be on all categories within this block before public testimony)</b>	
<b>To be held in conjunction with the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services:</b>	
<b>MAINECARE</b>	
<b>DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION</b>	
<b>Health and Human Services, Department of</b>	
Department of Health and Human Services Central Operations	
<i>Language Parts</i>	

BBB	<i>This Part authorizes the Department of Health and Human Services to adopt emergency rules to implement any provisions of this Act over which it has specific authority that has not been addressed by some other Part of the Act without the necessity of demonstrating that immediate adoption is necessary to avoid a threat to public health, safety or welfare.</i>
DDD	<i>This Part lapses \$3,600,000 of the unencumbered balance forward within the Department of Health and Human Services, General Fund carrying accounts to the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund no later than June 30, 2026.</i>
T	<i>Sections T-12, T-13 and T-14 of this Part provide for transfers from the Budget Stabilization Fund to the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Family Independence program and Office of MaineCare Services Program to provides one-time funding for one-time technology adjustments and compliance with new federal legislation, H.R. 1 - One Big Beautiful Bill Act, PL 119-21.</i>

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES**

<b>Health and Human Services, Department of</b>	
	Early Childhood Consultation Program
	IV-E Foster Care/Adoption Assistance
	Mental Health Services – Children
	Office of Child and Family Services – Central
	Office of Child and Family Services – District
	State-Funded Foster Care/Adoption Assistance

**9:00 AM Thursday, February 19, 2026**

**(Note: Department & Agency testimony will be on all categories within this block before public testimony)**

**To be held in conjunction with the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation:**

<b>Treasurer of the State, Office of</b>	
	Disproportionate Tax Burden Fund
	State – Municipal Revenue Sharing

**Administrative and Financial Services, Department of**

	Revenue Services – Bureau of
<i>Language Parts</i>	

K	<i>This Part updates references to the United States Internal Revenue Code of 1986 in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 36; phases in Maine conformity with the IRC 174A(a) deduction for domestic research or experimental expenditures; allows a subtraction modification for charitable deductions claimed by non-itemizers on federal income taxes; decouples Maine from federal provisions allowing corporate taxpayers to immediately expense certain “qualified production property”; adjusts the Maine standard deduction; updates a reference to align with a federal income tax change; and repeals the employer credit for family and medical leave for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2026.</i>
M	<i>This Part consolidates the existing homestead, veterans, and blind exemption into one tiered homestead exemption.</i>
N	<i>This Part enacts a pass-through entity tax for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2026. The tax applies to each taxable year that the pass-through entity elects to be subject to the tax.</i>
O	<i>This Part sunsets the Business Equipment Tax Reimbursement (BETR) program.</i>

**1:30 PM Thursday, February 19, 2026**

**(Note: Department & Agency testimony will be on all categories within this block before public testimony)**

**To be held in conjunction with the Joint Standing Committee on Housing and Economic Development**

<b>Economic and Community Development, Department of</b>	
	Office of Innovation
	Office of Tourism
<i>Language Parts</i>	

<i>J</i>	<i>This part extends the authority for payments to the Loring Job Increment Financing Fund from 2026 to 2031; and increases from 50% to 100% the amount of the employment tax increment the State Tax Assessor is required to deposit into the Loring Job Increment Financing Fund.</i>
<i>EE</i>	<i>This part transfers \$700,000 from available balances in the Tourism Marketing Promotion Fund, Other Special Revenue Funds account within the Department of Economic and Community Development to the Department of Economic and Community Development, Municipal Investment Fund, Other Special Revenue Funds account.</i>
<b>Finance Authority of Maine</b>	
Maine Health Care Provider Loan Repayment Program	
<i>Language Parts</i>	
<i>TT</i>	<i>This Part extends the date to allow the Finance Authority of Maine to issue revenue obligation securities for energy distribution system projects or energy generating projects that have been issued a certificate of approval by the Authority before January 1, 2040. Additionally, this Part also extends the allowable date by which the Public Utilities Commission may issue a certificate of approval for an electric rate stabilization agreement to July 31, 2040.</i>
<b>Housing Authority, Maine State</b>	
Shelter Operating Subsidy	
Emergency Housing Relief Fund Program (Part T)	
Housing Authority - State (Part T)	
<i>Language Parts</i>	
<i>F</i>	<i>Section F-2 of this Part authorizes that the Governor, during a declared state of emergency, may distribute from the stabilization fund up to \$1,500,000 to Maine State Housing Authority for administration of benefit payments for emergency heating assistance, without charge.</i>
<i>T</i>	<i>Sections T-15 and T-16 of this Part authorize the State Controller transfer \$55,000,000 from the Budget Stabilization Fund within the Department of Administrative and Financial Services to the Maine State Housing Authority, Housing Authority - State program, Other Special Revenue Funds account and \$14,000,000 from the Budget Stabilization Fund within the Department of Administrative and Financial Services to the Emergency Housing Relief Fund Program, Other Special Revenue Funds account.</i>
<b>Maine Office of Community Affairs</b>	
Community Resilience Partnership	
Division of Building Codes and Standards	
Housing Opportunity Program	
Maine Climate Corps Program	
Maine Floodplain Program	
Maine Office of Community Affairs	
Municipal Planning Assistance	
State Resilience Fund	
<i>Language Parts</i>	
<i>T</i>	<i>Sections T-20 and T-21 authorize the State Controller to transfer \$500,000 in FY2026 and \$500,000 in FY27 from the Budget Stabilization Fund within the Department of Administrative and Financial Services to the Housing Opportunity program, Other Special Revenue Funds account for a pilot project to provide regionalized building code enforcement.</i>

RRR	<i>This part transfers the statutory responsibilities for the oversight of manufactured housing manufacturers and manufactured housing communities currently held by the Manufactured Housing Board and administered by the Office of Professional and Occupational Regulation within the Department of Professional and Financial Services to the Maine Office of Community Affairs. It eliminates the Manufactured Housing Board and transfers related accounts and balances to the Maine Office of Community Affairs. It provides transition authority to the Office of Community Affairs to continue administering the related programs of Title 10 Chapter 951 under current rules and authorizes the Maine Office of Community Affairs to develop and implement new rules in replacement. It provides that annual license fees assessed to manufactured housing communities may be expanded to fund legal services provided by the Office of the Attorney General. It also increases the surcharge on plan review fees collected through the Office of the State Fire Marshal to fund the Technical Building Codes and Standards Board with respect to the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code.</i>
<b>Professional and Financial Regulation, Department of</b>	
Manufactured Housing Board	
Office of Professional and Occupational Regulation	
<b>10:00 AM Friday, February 20, 2026</b>	
<b>(Note: Department &amp; Agency testimony will be on all categories within this block before public testimony)</b>	
<b>To be held in conjunction with the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs:</b>	
<b>CULTURAL AGENCIES &amp; HIGHER EDUCATION</b>	
<b>Library, Maine State</b>	
Maine State Library	
Statewide Library Information System	
<b>Public Broadcasting Corporation, Maine</b>	
Maine Public Broadcasting Corporation	
<b>Community College System, Maine</b>	
Maine Community College System - Board of Trustees	
MCCS Free Community College - 2 Enrollment Years	
<b>Maritime Academy, Maine</b>	
Maine Maritime Academy Scholarship Fund - Casino	
<b>University of Maine, Board of Trustees of the</b>	
Educational & General Activities – UMS	
Maine Economic Improvement Fund	
University of Maine Scholarship Fund	
<b>PUBLIC EDUCATION</b>	
<b>Education, State Board of</b>	
State Board of Education	
<b>Education, Department of</b>	
Climate Education Professional Development Pilot Program Fund	
Education in Unorganized Territory	
Federal Programs Team	
Fund for the Efficient Delivery of Educational Services	
General Purpose Aid for Local Schools (GPA)	
Innovation Teaching and Learning	
Learning Through Technology	
Maine School Safety Center	
Office of Innovation	

Office of Workforce Development and Innovative Pathways	
School Facilities	
<i>Language Parts</i>	
<i>C</i>	<i>This Part establishes the Total Cost of Education from Kindergarten to Grade 12, the state contribution, the annual target state share percentage, and the mill expectation for the local contribution for fiscal year 2026-2027.</i>
<i>T</i>	<i>Section T-9, T-10 and T-11 of this Part implement a program to provide one-time funding to Maine school districts for school bus safety measures including retrofitting buses with crossing arms and anti-pinch door sensors.</i>
<i>FF</i>	<i>This Part authorizes the receipt and expenditure of private funds to support educational programs.</i>
<i>GG</i>	<i>This Part directs the Department of Education, in coordination with the Maine School Management Association, to develop a model policy available to school boards prohibiting use of personal electronic devices during the school day.</i>
<i>HH</i>	<i>This Part repeals the entirety of chapter 114-A related to the creation, uses and sources of funding for the Fund for the Efficient Delivery of Educational Services.</i>
<i>II</i>	<i>This Part increases the minimum age requirements for enrollment from a person who has not yet reached 20 years of age before the start of a school year to a person who has not yet reached 22 years of age before the start of a school year.</i>
<i>JJ</i>	<i>This Part includes costs attributed to professional and administrative staff support to implement the requirements of this section as an allowable use of the fund. It also clarifies that a school administrative unit's unexpended funds in this program at the end of a fiscal year shall be carried forward for the same purpose.</i>
<i>KK</i>	<i>This Part moves the funding to support 16 – 20 year olds that are no longer enrolled in public education from the Essential Programs and Services (EPS) funding calculation to the Adult Education program where these students are taking courses to attain high school equivalency diplomas. The current method of providing funding within the EPS calculation does not guarantee that funds are used to support the intended student population, nor does it require that the allocation go to the SAU operating the adult education services. This change will better align with current statute, improve accuracy, simplify reporting, provide better equity, and increase the impact of funding intended for those students no longer enrolled in public education.</i>
<i>LL</i>	<i>This Part adds an alternate data set to determine teacher eligibility based on the percentage of students identified as economically disadvantaged for subsidy purposes under chapter 606-B.</i>
<i>MM</i>	<i>This Part moves principal and interest costs for approved major capital projects from payment within the Essential Programs and Services (EPS) funding calculation to payment as targeted education funds. This allows the EPS funding calculation for each school administrative unit (SAU) to be determined prior to inclusion of debt service costs and attributes debt service costs only to those SAUs with approved major capital projects.</i>
<i>NN</i>	<i>This Part repeals the subsection of the authorization of payment of targeted education funds related to the Fund for the Efficient Delivery of Educational Services.</i>
<i>OO</i>	<i>This Part changes the Department of Education, Special Services Team program, General Fund account to a nonlapsing account to allow the balance to carry forward for its original purpose.</i>
<i>PP</i>	<i>This Part authorizes the transfer of \$16,651,457 in unencumbered balance forward from the General Purpose Aid for Local Schools program to the Child Development Services program within the Department of Education.</i>
<i>QQ</i>	<i>This Part authorizes the Department of Education to transfer Personal Services to the All Other line category in order to fund maintenance and licensing costs for an internet-based application for free or reduced-priced meals, annual hosting and maintenance costs for the department's grant management system and rising costs related to the adult education data system.</i>
<i>KKK</i>	<i>This Part authorizes the Maine State Library to transfer Personal Services to the All Other line category in order to fund new signage to comply with accessibility codes.</i>
<i>QQQ</i>	<i>This Part repeals outdated language related to tuition waivers and codifies and makes permanent the Maine Free Community College Program.</i>
<i>SSS</i>	<i>This Part identifies annual increases in minimum teacher salaries beginning in the 2027-2028 school year until the minimum salary for certified teachers and career and technical education teachers reaches \$50,000.</i>

10:00 AM Monday, February 23, 2026 - CANCELLED DUE TO STORM, Rescheduled to Friday 2/27/26

1:30 PM Monday, February 23, 2026 - CANCELLED DUE TO STORM, Rescheduled to Friday 2/27/26

1:30 PM Tuesday, February 24, 2026

**(Note: Department & Agency testimony will be on all categories within this block before public testimony)**

**To be held in conjunction with the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs:**

**Administrative and Financial Services, Department of**

Adult Use Cannabis Public Health and Safety Fund and Municipal Opt-In Fund

**Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management, Department of**

Military Training & Operations

Veterans Services

Veterans' Homelessness Prevention Partnership Fund

*Language Parts*

*DD This Part authorizes the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management to transfer Personal Services to the All Other line category in order to fund rising electricity costs.*

**Public Safety, Department of**

Gambling Control Board

**Secretary of State, Department of**

Bureau of Corporations, Elections and Commissions

4:00 PM Tuesday, February 24, 2026

**(Note: Department & Agency testimony will be on all categories within this block before public testimony)**

**To be held in conjunction with the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government:**

**Executive Department**

Office of Policy Innovation and the Future

**Administrative and Financial Services, Department of**

Bureau of General Services – Capital Construction and Improvement Reserve Fund

Financial and Personnel Services – Division of

Information Services

Risk Management – Claims

*Language Parts*

*G This Part authorizes any remaining balances in the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Information Services program and Developmental Services Oversight and Advisory Board program to carry each fiscal year.*

*I This Part allows state Postal services to be available to the university system, any political subdivision, or educational institution, as defined, in the State or qualifying nonprofit, as defined. This Part also codifies the longstanding State purchasing card program as a component of Central Services.*

*S This Part authorizes the Department of Administrative and Financial Services to transfer Personal Services to the All Other line category in order to fund stabilization of geographic information system functions, including latency.*

<i>ZZ</i>	<i>This Part authorizes an extension of the expiration date to November 1, 2026 for limited-period positions that are set to expire in June 2026 but are funded through fiscal year 2025-26 and are proposed to continue into the next biennium.</i>
<b>Maine Office of Community Affairs</b>	
Maine Service Fellows Program	
<b>Secretary of State, Department of</b>	
Permanent Commission on the Status of Women	

**10:00 AM Wednesday, February 25, 2026**

**(Note: Department & Agency testimony will be on all categories within this block before public testimony)**

**To be held in conjunction with the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety:**

<b>Corrections, Department of</b>	
Administration – Corrections	
Adult Community Corrections	
Bolduc Correctional Facility	
Correctional Center	
Downeast Correctional Facility	
Juvenile Community Corrections	
Long Creek Youth Development Center	
Maine State Prison	
Mountain View Correctional Facility	
Office of Victim Services	

*Language Parts*  
*Part CC authorizes the Department of Corrections to transfer Personal Services to the All Other line category in order to fund rising electricity costs, Maine Criminal Justice Academy training costs, rising water and sewer utility costs, and rising costs of contracting with Johnson Controls Fire Protection LP and Siemens Industry Inc.*

<b>Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management, Department of</b>	
Administration – Maine Emergency Management Agency	

<b>Maine Fire Protection Services Commission</b>	
<i>Language Parts</i>	
<i>Part UU authorizes any unexpended remaining balance at the end of fiscal year 2025-26 in the department of Maine Fire Protection Services Commission, Maine Fire Protection Services Commission program, All Other line category in Public Law 2023, chapter 459 to carry forward into next fiscal year</i>	

<b>Public Safety, Department of</b>	
Administration – Public Safety	
Capitol Police, Bureau of	
EMS Stabilization and Sustainability Program	
Fire Marshall – Office of	
Highway Safety DPS	

*Language Parts*  
*OOO This Part makes technical changes to the provisions of the bill requiring the Department of Public Safety to maintain a tracking system for all completed forensic examination kits to add clarity, including by clarifying that a completed forensic examination kit may be processed by either the Maine State Police Crime Laboratory located in Augusta or another accredited laboratory that provides forensic services to law enforcement agencies for the purpose of analyzing forensic examination kits.*

*PPP This Part authorizes the Department of Public Safety to transfer Personal Services to the All Other and Capital Expenditures line categories in order to fund the Maine Information Analysis Center software contract, a contract for firearms examiner services, eight 40-millimeter launchers, consoles at three Emergency Communication Centers, a roof replacement at the K-9 office, parking lot and driveway resurfacing at the Alfred barracks, a heat pump and generator for the Pittsfield barracks, an update to the security system at the Bangor barracks, rising food service costs and costs related to increasing reimbursement rates for contracted cadre trainer services.*

**1:00 PM Wednesday, February 25, 2026**

**(Note: Department & Agency testimony will be on all categories within this block before public testimony)**

**To be held in conjunction with the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation:**

**Public Safety, Department of**

State Police

Turnpike Enforcement

**2:00 PM Wednesday, February 25, 2026**

**(Note: Department & Agency testimony will be on all categories within this block before public testimony)**

**To be held in conjunction with the Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources:**

**Marine Resources, Department of**

Bureau of Marine Science

Bureau of Policy and Management

Bureau of Public Health and Aquaculture

*Language Parts*

*LLL This part establishes the Marine Science Research and Boat Operations Fund to provide funding to support marine science research, boat operations and maintenance.*

*MMM This part authorizes the Department of Marine Resources, Bureau of Marine Science to carry up to \$400,000 for the State's share of match funding related to storm damages from January 2024.*

*NNN This Part authorizes the Department of Marine Resources to transfer Personal Services to the All Other line category in order to fund a building condition assessment and master plan for the department's facility in West Boothbay Harbor.*

**3:00 PM Wednesday, February 25, 2026**

**(Note: Department & Agency testimony will be on all categories within this block before public testimony)**

**To be heard by the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs:**

**GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND DEBT SERVICE**

**Treasurer of the State, Office of**

Debt Service

**GENERAL FISCAL**

**Administrative and Financial Services, Department of**

Affordability Payment Program (Part T)

*Language Parts*

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

*E This Part repeals the requirement for a separate administration account for the cost of administration of the state employee health insurance program and clarifies these costs should be included in the Internal Service Fund, in alignment with the administration of other Internal Service Funds, as an integral component of the health insurance premium. This Part further clarifies that the reserve fund is being accounted for in the Internal Service Fund.*

*H This Part clarifies that Internal Service Funds, unless otherwise provided, will be exempt from the cash pool interest earnings and interest expense.*

P	<i>This Part suspends the appropriation limit for fiscal year 2026-27.</i>
Q	<i>This Part authorizes the State Controller to transfer \$6,678,121 to the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund.</i>
R	<i>This Part authorizes the State Controller to transfer \$2,500,000 from available balance in the Reserve for General Fund Operating Capital to the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund.</i>
T	<i>Sections T-1 through T-8 of this Part authorize the State Controller on or before June 30, 2026 to transfer \$163,875,000 and on or before June 30, 2027 to transfer \$54,625,000 from the Budget Stabilization Fund within the Department of Administrative and Financial Services to the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Affordability Payment Program Fund, Other Special Revenue Funds and establishes the Affordability Payment Program to provide a one-time \$300 affordability payment to each eligible recipient.</i>
<b>Environmental Protection, Department of</b>	
<i>Language Parts</i>	
SS	<i>This Part authorizes the Department of Environmental Protection to transfer Personal Services to the Capital Expenditures line category in order to fund the purchase of two ozone calibrator instruments, one ozone monitor instrument, one continuous, real-time air quality monitoring instrument, one zero air generator, two hydrogen sulfide analyzers, two trace-level dilution calibrators and two data loggers.</i>
<b>1:30 PM Thursday, February 26, 2026</b>	
<b>(Note: Department &amp; Agency testimony will be on all categories within this block before public testimony)</b>	
<b>To be held in conjunction with the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology:</b>	
<b>Energy Resources, Department of</b>	
Energy Resources, Department of	
Distributed Solar and Energy Storage Program	
Maine Offshore Wind Renewable Energy and Economic Development Program	
Offshore Wind Research Consortium Fund	
<i>Language Parts</i>	
RR	<i>This Part authorizes any unexpended balances in the Department of Energy Resources, General Fund account to carry and not lapse.</i>
<b>Executive Department</b>	
Distributed Solar and Energy Storage Program	
Governor's Energy Office	
Maine Offshore Wind Renewable Energy and Economic Development Program	
Offshore Wind Research Consortium Fund	
<b>2:00 PM Thursday, February 26, 2026</b>	
<b>(Note: Department &amp; Agency testimony will be on all categories within this block before public testimony)</b>	
<b>To be held in conjunction with the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife:</b>	
<b>Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, Department of</b>	
ATV Safety and Educational Program	
Enforcement Operations – IF&W	
Fisheries and Hatcheries Operations	
Resource Management Services – IF&W	
<i>Language Parts</i>	
FFF	<i>This Part establishes the Inland Fisheries Conservation and Enhancement Program to prioritize native inland fish conservation and the research, management and enhancement of the State's native fish.</i>
GGG	<i>This Part repeals and replaces the existing statute, providing authority of the fund to support the engineering design, construction, maintenance and repair of current and additional fish hatcheries and feeding stations owned by the State and to pay for personal services overtime for fish stocking and other hatchery-related work when operationally required. This Part also authorizes that \$2 from each fishing license sold and that money deposited pursuant to Title 29-A, section 456-C, subsection 3, paragraph A, subparagraph (1), must be deposited into the fund.</i>
<b>3:00 PM Thursday, February 26, 2026</b>	
<b>(Note: Department &amp; Agency testimony will be on all categories within this block before public testimony)</b>	

<b>To be held in conjunction with the Joint Standing Committee on Labor</b>	
<b>Labor, Department of</b>	
	Administration – Labor
	Employment Security Services
	Employment Services Activity
	Maine Apprenticeship Program
	Rehabilitation Services
	State Workforce Development Board
	Workforce Research

<i>Language Parts</i>	
<i>JJJ</i>	<i>This Part amends the statute for the Division for the Blind and Visually Impaired to clarify its organizational structure, reflecting what has been in place since its creation within the Department of Labor. The Division has been part of the Bureau of Rehabilitation Services. The Director is not an appointee of the Commissioner.</i>
<i>TTT</i>	<i>This Part authorizes the State Controller to transfer funding from the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Adult Use Cannabis Public Health and Safety Municipal Opt-In Fund, Other Special Revenue Fund to the Department of Labor, Maine Apprenticeship Program, Other Special Revenue Fund, to support the continuation of one limited-period CareerCenter Consultant position through June 18, 2028.</i>

**10:00 AM Friday, February 27, 2026 (RESCHEDULED FROM 2/23/26)**

**(Note: Department & Agency testimony will be on all categories within this block before public testimony)**

<b>To be held in conjunction with the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary:</b>	
<b>Attorney General, Department of</b>	
	Administration – Attorney General
	District Attorneys Salaries
	Human Services Division
<i>Language Parts</i>	
<i>BB</i>	<i>This Part authorizes the Department of the Attorney General to transfer Personal Services to the All Other line category in order to fund licensing, maintenance and support of the case management system and Axon licenses for the criminal division.</i>
<b>Human Rights Commission, Maine</b>	
	Human Rights Commission – Regulation
<b>Public Defense Services, Maine Commission on</b>	
	Maine Commission on Public Defense Services
<i>Language Parts</i>	
<i>T</i>	<i>Section T-18 and T-19 of this Part authorize the State Controller to transfer \$12,322,443 in FY 2026 and \$13,026,035 in FY27 from the Budget Stabilization Fund within the Department of Administrative and Financial Services to the Maine Commission on Public Defense Services, Maine Commission on Public Defense Services, Other Special Revenue Funds account for onetime needs for technology and compliance with new federal legislation, the One Big Beautiful Bill Act.</i>
<b>Judicial Department</b>	
	Courts – Supreme, Superior and District
	Judicial - Debt Service
<i>Language Parts</i>	

<i>HHH</i>	<i>This part amends Public Law 2025, c. 388, Part F by increasing the amount of funding that the Judicial Department is authorized to transfer in 2025-26 and 2026-27 from available balances in the Personal Services line category to the All Other line category from \$750,000 to \$1,250,000 in each year to fund temporary clerk services, marshal services contracts, guardians ad litem, interpreters and mental health services.</i>
<i>III</i>	<i>This Part authorizes the Judicial Department to transfer Personal Services to the All Other line category in order to fund iPad replacements and licensing fees, rising contract costs related to case management services, implementation of a new record management system, rising utility costs, rising parking costs, rising interpreter costs, rising postage costs, rising travel costs. Additionally, this Part authorizes the Judicial Department to transfer Personal Services to the All Other line category to fund general facility improvements, increased file storage costs, increased lease costs and mold remediation at the Lincoln and Newport District Court locations.</i>

**1:30 PM Friday, February 27, 2026 (RESCHEDULED FROM 2/23/26)**

**(Note: Department & Agency testimony will be on all categories within this block before public testimony)**

**To be held in conjunction with the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry:**

**Finance Authority of Maine**  
Dairy Improvement Fund

<b>Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Department of</b>	
	Bureau of Agriculture
	Forest Resource Management
	Geology and Resource Information
	Harness Racing Commission
	Land Management and Planning
	Milk Commission
	Off-Road Recreational Vehicles Program
	Parks – General Operations
	Pesticides Control, Board of
<i>Language Parts</i>	
<i>F</i>	<i>Section F-1 of this Part changes the amount to \$4,000,000 that the Governor, during a declared state of emergency, in accordance with rules adopted by the Commissioner of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, may distribute from the stabilization fund to nonprofit entities, including food banks, food pantries and soup kitchens, that provide or distribute food to low-income, indigent or unemployed individuals or households, without charge.</i>
<i>U</i>	<i>This Part changes the name of the Farmers Drought Relief Grant Program to the Farmers Drought Resilience Program in statute.</i>
<i>V</i>	<i>This Part creates two new trusts within the Land Management and Planning program to enable the investment of funds to provide perpetual funding for conservation easement monitoring and enforcement and to enable strategic investment of funds for a balance of growth and liquidity as agreed on by the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, and Treasury Departments.</i>
<i>W</i>	<i>This Part authorizes the State Controller to carry forward up to \$500,000 of unexpended balance in the All Other line category in the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Bureau of Agriculture program, at the end of fiscal year 2025-26 to the All Other line category for the next fiscal year in the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Bureau of Agriculture program, to be used to replace the feed, seed, and fertilizer database.</i>
<i>X</i>	<i>This Part authorizes the State Controller to carry forward up to \$1,500,000 of unexpended balance in the Capital Expenditures line category in the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Bureau of Agriculture program, at the end of fiscal year 2025-26 to the Capital Expenditures line category for the next fiscal year in the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Bureau of Agriculture program, to be used to replace the licensing and inspection database.</i>

Y	<i>This Part authorizes the State Controller to carry forward up to \$750,000 of unexpended balance in the Capital Expenditures line category in the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Bureau of Agriculture program, at the end of fiscal year 2025-26 to the Capital Expenditures line category for the next fiscal year in the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Bureau of Agriculture program, to be used to upgrade the Cony Road facility in Augusta.</i>
Z	<i>This Part authorizes the State Controller to carry forward up to \$1,000,000 of unexpended balance in the Capital Expenditures line category in the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Parks – General Operations program at the end of each fiscal year to the Capital Expenditures line category for the next fiscal year in the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Parks – General Operations program to be used for capital infrastructure improvements to Telos Dam in the Allagash Wilderness Waterway.</i>
AA	<i>This Part authorizes the Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry to transfer, Personal Services to the All Other and Capital Expenditures line categories in order to fund four vehicle leases, early detection and rapid response to eradicate invasive stilt grass, stakeholder engagement in preparation for updating the Comprehensive Land Use Plan, an update to Maine’s Official List of Threatened and Endangered Plants, an upgrade to the Land Use Planning Commission Geographic Oriented Action Tracker database, geographic information system expenses, equipment and licenses needed to access the human resource management system, and for facility maintenance of the Old Town hangar.</i>