

FISCAL COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL COURT  
MINUTES  
October 22, 2021

The Fiscal Committee of the General Court met on Friday, October 22, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. in Room 210-211 of the Legislative Office Building.

Members in attendance were as follows:

Representative Karen Umberger, Chairman  
Representative Jess Edwards  
Representative Tracy Emerick  
Representative Keith Erf  
Representative Peter Leishman  
Representative Bob Lynn (Alternate)  
Representative Joseph Pitre (Alternate)  
Representative Mary Jane Wallner (Alternate)  
Senator Gary Daniels  
Senate President Chuck Morse  
Senator Bob Giuda  
Senator Cindy Rosenwald  
Senator Lou D'Allesandro

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:

On a motion by Senator D'Allesandro, seconded by Representative Emerick, that the Committee approve the minutes of the September 17, 2021 meeting as written.

Senator Daniels requested that **language be added** to the paragraph before INFORMATIONAL LATE ITEMS on Page 7, to read: "The Committee requested the Department of Education return to the October 1<sup>st</sup> meeting with an update on the Voucher Program, the number of students enrolled, **where the students were from, if that district had a mask mandate policy**, and what effect it might have on the budget."

The Chair called for the Committee vote on the Amendment to the September 17, 2021 minutes as stated by Senator Daniels. MOTION ADOPTED. (8-Yes; 0-No; 2-Abstained)

The Chair called for the Committee vote on the motion to accept the September 17, 2021 minutes as amended. MOTION ADOPTED. (8-Yes; 0-No; 2-Abstained)

OLD BUSINESS:

FIS 21-255 and FIS 21-256 Department of Health and Human Services Withdrawn by Agency (Late Item) – request submitted to withdraw tabled items FIS 21- 255 Department of Health and Human Services – authorization through June 30, 2023 to; 1) accept and expend \$22,495,752 in federal funds to fund the Immunization Program as mandated by the American

Rescue Plan, and 2) contingent upon approval of request #1, authorization to create twelve (12) full-time temporary new positions consisting of; a Program Specialist III, a Program Specialist IV, five (5) System Development Specialist III's, and five (5) System Development Specialist IV's, tabled 09/17/2021, and FIS 21-256 Department of Health and Human Services – authorization through June 30, 2023 to; 1) accept and expend \$4,500,544 in federal funds, and 2) contingent upon approval of request #1, authorization to create one (1) temporary full-time Public Health Program Manager position, tabled 09/17/2021. WITHDRAWN BY AGENCY.

RSA 9:16-c. I. TRANSFER OF FEDERAL GRANT FUNDS:  
CONSENT CALENDAR

At the request of Senator Rosenwald, FIS 21-308 Governor's Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery was removed from the Consent Calendar.

FIS 21-308 Governor's Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery – Taylor Caswell, Executive Director, and Chase Hagaman, Deputy Director, Governor's Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Senator Morse, seconded by Senator D'Allesandro, that the Committee approve the request of the Governor's Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery to reallocate \$39,500,060 in federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funding through June 30, 2023. MOTION ADOPTED.

RSA 9:16-c. I. TRANSFER OF FEDERAL GRANT FUNDS, AND RSA 124:15. POSITIONS AUTHORIZED:

CONSENT CALENDAR

On a motion by Senator D'Allesandro, seconded by Senator Daniels, that the Committee approve the request under this section as submitted. MOTION ADOPTED. [FIS 21-297 Department of Safety – authorization through September 30, 2022 to; 1) reallocate \$171,663 in federal funds, and 2) contingent upon approval of Request #1, establish class 046 consultant positions]

RSA 14:30-a. VI FISCAL COMMITTEE APPROVAL REQUIRED FOR ACCEPTANCE AND EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS OVER \$100,000 FROM ANY NON-STATE SOURCE:

CONSENT CALENDAR

At the request of Senator Giuda, FIS 21-293 Department of Safety and FIS 21-305 Department of Health and Human Services were removed from the Consent Calendar, and Senator Rosenwald requested to remove FIS 21-309 Governor's Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery.

On a motion by Representative Leishman, seconded by Senator D'Allesandro, that the Committee approve the remaining requests under this section as submitted. MOTION ADOPTED. [FIS 21-286 Department of Safety – authorization to accept an expend \$250,240 in other

funds through June 30, 2023, FIS 21-292 Department of Energy – authorization to accept and expend \$1,774,563 in federal funds through June 30, 2023, FIS 21-298 Department of Natural and Cultural Resources – authorization to accept and expend \$349,997.95 in federal funds through June 30, 2023, FIS 21-299 Department of Information Technology – authorization to accept and expend \$475,000 in other funds through June 30, 2023, FIS 21-300 Department of Health and Human Services – authorization to accept and expend \$125,592 in federal funds through June 30, 2022, and FIS 21-310 Department of Health and Human Services – authorization to accept and expend \$3,350,000 in other funds through September 30, 2022]

FIS 21-293 Department of Safety – Steven Lavoie, Director of Administration, Department of Safety, responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Senator Daniels, seconded by Senator Giuda, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Safety to accept and expend \$217,538 in other funds through September 30, 2022. MOTION ADOPTED.

FIS 21-305 Department of Health and Human Services – Lori Shibinette, Commissioner, Kerrin Rounds, Chief Financial Officer, and Christine Santaniello, Director, Division of Economic and Housing Stability, Department of Health and Human Services responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Senator D’Allesandro, seconded by Senator Giuda, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Health and Human Services to accept and expend \$158,836 in federal funds through September 30, 2022. MOTION ADOPTED.

FIS 21-309 Governor’s Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery – Taylor Caswell, Executive Director, and Chase Hagaman, Deputy Director, Governor’s Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Senator Giuda, seconded by Senator Daniels, that the Committee approve the request of the Governor’s Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery to budget and expend \$3,353,350 in federal Housing Stability Services funding through June 30, 2023. MOTION ADOPTED.

RSA 14:30-a, VI FISCAL COMMITTEE APPROVAL REQUIRED FOR ACCEPTANCE AND EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS OVER \$100,000 FROM ANY NON-STATE SOURCE, AND RSA 9:16-a, II, TRANSFERS AUTHORIZED:

CONSENT CALENDAR

On a motion by Senator D’Allesandro, seconded by Representative Leishman, that the Committee approve the request under this section as submitted. MOTION ADOPTED. [FIS 21-287 Department of Natural and Cultural Resources – authorization through June 30, 2023 to; 1) budget and expend \$477,000 in other funds, and 2) transfer \$157,315 in other funds]

RSA 14:30-a, VI FISCAL COMMITTEE APPROVAL REQUIRED FOR ACCEPTANCE AND EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS OVER \$100,000 FROM ANY NON-STATE SOURCE, AND RSA 124:15, POSITIONS AUTHORIZED:

CONSENT CALENDAR

At the request of Representative Edwards, FIS 21-296 Department of Safety was removed from the Consent Calendar.

FIS 21-296 Department of Safety – Steven Lavoie, Director of Administration, and Justin Romanello, Bureau Chief of Emergency Medical Services, Department of Safety responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Senator D’Allesandro, seconded by Senator Giuda, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Safety for authorization through June 30, 2022 to; 1) accept and expend \$370,932 in other funds, and 2) contingent upon approval of Request #1, create one (1) temporary full-time Program Specialist III (LG 23) position and two (2) temporary part-time Program Specialist II (LG 21) positions. MOTION ADOPTED.

Senator Giuda requested the Department provide the number of new certified providers as opposed to trainees, and the Committee requested in six (6) months the Department provide an update to include metrics.

RSA 14:30-a, VI FISCAL COMMITTEE APPROVAL REQUIRED FOR ACCEPTANCE AND EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS OVER \$100,000 FROM ANY NON-STATE SOURCE AND RSA 206:33-b, TRANSFERS FROM FISH AND GAME FUND:

FIS 21-288 New Hampshire Fish and Game Department – Scott Mason, Executive Director, New Hampshire Fish and Game Department responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Senator D’Allesandro, seconded by Senator Daniels, that the Committee approve the request of the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department for authorization through June 30, 2023 to; 1) accept and expend \$870,430 in federal funds, and 2) transfer \$373,042 from the NH Fish and Game Fund Reserve to the Fish and Game FY 2022 Operating Budget. MOTION ADOPTED.

RSA 14:30-a, VI FISCAL COMMITTEE APPROVAL REQUIRED FOR ACCEPTANCE AND EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS OVER \$100,000 FROM ANY NON-STATE SOURCE:

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN 2021

CONSENT CALENDAR

On a motion by Senator Morse, seconded by Senator Giuda, that the Committee approve the requests under this section as submitted. MOTION ADOPTED. [FIS 21-281 Governor’s Office for Emergency Relief And Recovery – authorization to accept and expend an amount not to exceed

\$12,580,068 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) through June 30, 2023, FIS 21-282 Governor's Office for Emergency Relief And Recovery – authorization to accept and expend an amount not to exceed \$1,003,500 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) through June 30, 2023, FIS 21-283 Governor's Office for Emergency Relief And Recovery – authorization to accept and expend an amount not to exceed \$25,075,050 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) through June 30, 2023, FIS 21-289 Department of Health and Human Services – authorization to accept and expend \$1,218,273 in federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act/ARP grant funds through September 30, 2022, FIS 21-290 Department of Health and Human Services – authorization to accept and expend \$6,960,025 in federal Title III ARP grant funds through June 30, 2023, FIS 21-294 Department of Energy – authorization to accept and expend \$1,390,723 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds through June 30, 2023, FIS 21-295 Department of Energy – authorization to accept and expend \$35,498,757 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds through September 30, 2022, FIS 21-306 New Hampshire Employment Security – authorization to accept and expend \$1,023,000 in federal American Rescue Plan (ARP) State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (FRF) in a new accounting unit through June 30, 2023, FIS 21-307 Judicial Council – authorization to accept and expend \$2,066,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA), State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) through June 30, 2023, and FIS 21-312 Department of Business and Economic Affairs – authorization to accept and expend \$503,003 in federal American Rescue Plan (ARP) State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (FRF) through June 30, 2023]

RSA 14:30-a. VI FISCAL COMMITTEE APPROVAL REQUIRED FOR ACCEPTANCE AND EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS OVER \$100,000 FROM ANY NON-STATE SOURCE, AND RSA 124:15 POSITIONS AUTHORIZED:

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN 2021  
CONSENT CALENDAR

On a motion by Senator Morse, seconded by Senator D'Allesandro, that the Committee approve the request under this section as submitted. MOTION ADOPTED. [FIS 21-311 Department of Safety – authorization through June 30, 2023 to; 1) accept and expend \$3,192,099 in federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA), State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (FRF), and 2) establish four full-time temporary Licensing Examiner II positions]

LATE ITEMS/MISCELLANEOUS:

FIS 21-313 Department of Environmental Services – Robert Scott, Commissioner, and Susan Carlson, Chief Operations Officer, Department of Environmental Services responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Representative Leishman, seconded by Senator Morse, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Environmental Services for authorization through June 30, 2023 to; 1) pursuant to RSA 14:30-a, VI, accept and expend \$100,000,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) funds, and 2) pursuant to RSA 124:15, establish one full time temporary Environmentalist IV (LG27) position. MOTION ADOPTED.

FIS 21-314 Department of Health and Human Services – Lori Shibinette, Commissioner, and Kerrin Rounds, Chief Financial Officer, Department of Health and Human Services responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Senator D’Allesandro, seconded by Senator Daniels, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Health and Human Services for authorization pursuant to RSA 14:30-a, VI, to accept and expend \$15,117,252 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds through June 30, 2023. MOTION ADOPTED.

Representative Edwards requested Hampstead Hospitals policy on mandating COVID vaccinations for all employees, to which the Department agreed to provide the information.

FIS 21-315 Department of Health and Human Services – Lori Shibinette, Commissioner, Kerrin Rounds, Chief Financial Officer, and Patricia Tilley, Director, Division of Public Health Services, Department of Health and Human Services responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Senator D’Allesandro, seconded by Representative Edwards, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Health and Human Services for authorization pursuant to RSA 14:30-a, VI, to accept and expend \$4,686,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds through June 30, 2023. MOTION ADOPTED.

INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS:

The Chair expressed her appreciation to the Department of Health and Human Services for their annual report on the Granite Advantage Health Care Trust Fund, SFY 2021 Activities and Operations (FIS 21-301) dated September 27, 2021 and looked forward to receiving the Dashboard for the next meeting.

The informational items were accepted and placed on file.

AUDIT INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS:

No discussion occurred pertaining to item FIS 21-303 Department of Education – quarterly progress update report of the Dept of Education-Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation February 2021 LBA audit findings, dated September 29, 2021.

AUDITS:

State of New Hampshire, Department of Labor, Financial Audit Report For The Nine Months Ended March 31, 2021 – On a motion by Representative Emerick, seconded by Senator Giuda, that the report be accepted, placed on file, and released in the usual manner. MOTION ADOPTED.

Stephen Smith, Director of Audits, and Collin Quinn, Audit Manager, Audit Division, Office of Legislative Budget Assistant presented the report and responded to questions of the Committee. Kenneth Merrifield, Commissioner, Department of Labor was present to address the Committee and respond to questions. Also present were Denis Goulet, Commissioner, Department of Information Technology, and John Clinch, Senior Audit Manager, Audit Division, Office of Legislative Budget Assistant.

MISCELLANEOUS:

The Committee requested that the Department of Education be present for the November meeting to provide an update on the Education Freedom Account Program.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT:

The Chair scheduled the next regular meeting of the Fiscal Committee for Friday, November 19, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. to be held in Room 210-211 of the Legislative Office Building.

On a motion to adjourn by Senator Giuda, seconded by Senator Daniels, the meeting adjourned at approximately 12:15 p.m.



Representative Tracy Emerick, Clerk