

FISCAL COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL COURT
MINUTES

February 13, 2002

The Fiscal Committee of the General Court met on Wednesday, February 13, 2002 at 9:00 a.m. in Room 210-211 of the Legislative Office Building.

Members in attendance were as follows:

Representative Neal Kurk, Chairman
Representative Kenneth Weyler, Clerk
Representative Keith Herman
Representative Beverly Rodeschin
Representative Marjorie Smith
Senator Arthur Klemm, Vice Chairman
Senator John Barnes
Senator Gary Francoeur
Senator Beverly Hollingworth
Senator Caroline McCarley

Chairman Kurk opened the meeting at 9:48 a.m.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:

On a motion by Senator Barnes, seconded by Representative Rodeschin, that the Committee accept the minutes of the January 15, 2002 meeting as written. MOTION ADOPTED.

OLD BUSINESS:

FIS 01-333 Department of Justice - On a motion by Senator Barnes, seconded by Representative Weyler, that this request be removed from the table. MOTION ADOPTED.

On a motion by Representative Herman, seconded by Senator Barnes, that the Committee approve the request from the Department of Justice to expend up to \$105,000 from the general fund to pay for autopsies conducted pursuant to RSA 611:7. MOTION ADOPTED.

FIS 01-337 N.H. Retirement System - On a motion by Senator Barnes, seconded by Representative Herman, that this request be removed from the table. MOTION ADOPTED.

On a motion by Representative Herman, seconded by Senator Barnes, that the Committee approve a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for individuals retired prior to July 1, 2001, effective July 1, 2002 and retroactive to their retirement anniversary date as follows:

Employees - 2%
Teachers - 3%
Policemen - 2%
Firemen - 3%

MOTION ADOPTED.

February 13, 2002

RSA 9:16-a TRANSFER AND REDUCTIONS AUTHORIZED - CONSENT CALENDAR:

On a motion by Representative Herman, seconded by Senator Klemm, that the Committee approve all the requests as presented under this section on the agenda. MOTION ADOPTED. (FIS 02-017 Board of Medicine and FIS 02-026 Liquor Commission)

RSA 124:15 POSITIONS RESTRICTED - CONSENT CALENDAR:

All the requests were discussed individually since members had questions on each.

FIS 02-012 Department of Employment Security - This request was not discussed at this time since there was no one present from the agency.

FIS 02-013 Department of Safety - Tim Mason, Director of Administration presented the request and responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Representative Rodeschin, seconded by Senator Klemm, that this request be tabled. MOTION ADOPTED.

FIS 02-021 Department of Safety - Tim Mason presented the request and responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Senator Klemm, seconded by Representative Herman, that the Committee approve the request from the Department of Safety to establish a System Development Specialist V position through September 30, 2002. MOTION ADOPTED.

FIS 02-019 Banking Department - Kathleen Belanger, Administrator, Industry, Regulation and Licensing presented the request and responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Representative Herman, seconded by Senator Barnes, that the Committee approve the request of the Banking Department to establish a Consultant position through June 03, 2002. MOTION ADOPTED.

FIS 02-020 Department of Education - Nicholas Donohue, Commissioner and Judith Fillion, Director, Program Support presented the request and responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Representative Herman, seconded by Senator Barnes, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Education to establish an Education Consultant III position through June 30, 2003. MOTION ADOPTED.

FIS 02-025 Department of Education - Nicholas Donohue, Commissioner and Judith Fillion, Director, Program Support presented the request and responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Representative Herman, seconded by Senator Barnes, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Education

to establish a Consultant position through September 30, 2002. MOTION ADOPTED.

FIS 02-022 Department of Environmental Services - Chris Simmers, Information Planning Section presented the request and responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Senator Klemm, seconded by Representative Herman, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Environmental Services to establish a System Development Specialist IV position through June 30, 2003. MOTION ADOPTED.

FIS 02-024 Department of Environmental Services, Oil Fund Disbursement Board - Fred Magarian, Chief Engineer presented the request and responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Senator Barnes, seconded by Senator Klemm, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Environmental Services, Oil Fund Disbursement Board to establish one (1) Administrator II position, one (1) Civil Engineer V position, one (1) Environmentalist IV position, and one (1) Hydrogeologist III position through June 30, 2003. MOTION ADOPTED.

FIS 02-012 Department of Employment Security - On a motion by Representative Herman, seconded by Representative Rodeschin, that this request be tabled since no one was present from the agency to respond to Representative Herman's questions. MOTION ADOPTED.

RSA 124:15 POSITIONS RESTRICTED AND RSA 188-F:14-b, II DUTIES OF THE COMMISSIONER; DISBURSEMENTS; TRANSFERS:

FIS 02-027 Community Technical College System - On a motion by Representative Weyler, seconded by Senator McCarley, that the Committee approve the request of the Community Technical College System to establish adjunct faculty positions through June 30, 2003 and authorization to expend \$1,340,000 of actual revenue in excess of budget estimate. MOTION ADOPTED.

LATE ITEM:

FIS 02-030 Community Technical College System - On a motion by Senator McCarley, seconded by Representative Weyler, that the Committee approve the request of the Community Technical College System, N.H.T.C.-Nashua and Manchester to establish adjunct faculty positions through June 30, 2003 and authorization to expend \$894,661 of actual revenue in excess of budget estimate. MOTION ADOPTED.

CHAPTER 158:43, LAWS OF 2001 - ADDITIONAL REVENUES; DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES:

FIS 02-014 Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Community & Public Health - On a motion by Senator Barnes, seconded by Representative Smith, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Community & Public Health to accept and expend \$17,000 in federal funds. MOTION ADOPTED.

CHAPTER 158:43, LAWS OF 2001 - ADDITIONAL REVENUES; DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES and RSA 124:15 POSITIONS RESTRICTED:

FIS 02-009 Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Community & Public Health - On a motion by Senator Barnes, seconded by Representative Smith, that the Committee approve the request from the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Community & Public Health to accept and expend \$39,432 in federal funds and establish a Microbiologist I position through June 30, 2002. MOTION ADOPTED.

RSA 7:12 - ASSISTANTS:

FIS 02-029 Department of Justice - On a motion by Senator Klemm, seconded by Representative Weyler, that the Committee approve the request from the Department of Justice to expend up to \$225,000 from the general fund to cover projected shortfalls in the general litigation expenses incurred in the defense of the State and the prosecution of criminal law. MOTION FAILED.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

The informational items were accepted and placed on file.

AUDITS:

On a motion by Senator McCarley, seconded by Senator Barnes, that the Department of Education Financial and Compliance Audit Report For the Year Ended June 30, 2000 and Single Audit of Federal Assistance Programs For the Year Ended June 30, 2001 be accepted, placed on file and released in the usual manner. MOTION ADOPTED. (These reports will be presented at the March Fiscal Committee meeting.)

DATE OF NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT:

The next meeting of the Fiscal Committee will be held on Wednesday, March 13, 2002 at 9:00 a.m. in the Legislative Office Building, Room 210-211. A meeting date of Wednesday, April 10, 2002 was also set. (Whereupon the Committee adjourned.)

Representative Kenneth Weyler, Clerk