

FISCAL COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL COURT
MINUTES
June 15, 2005

The Fiscal Committee of the General Court met on Wednesday, June 15, 2005 at 9:00 a.m. in Room 210-211 of the Legislative Office Building.

Members in attendance were as follows:

Representative Frederick King, Chairman
Senator Charles Morse, Vice Chairman
Representative Joseph Stone, Clerk
Representative Elizabeth Hager
Representative Mary Jane Wallner
Representative Peter Franklin
Senator Thomas Eaton
Senator Robert Clegg
Senator Robert Odell
Senator Lou D'Allesandro

Chairman King opened the meeting at 9:08 a.m.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:

On a motion by Senator Odell, seconded by Senator Morse, that the minutes of the May 18, 2005 meeting be accepted as written. MOTION ADOPTED.

OLD BUSINESS:

FIS 05-082 Letter from Representative Kenneth Weyler, Chairman of the Legislative Performance Audit and Oversight Committee relative to the recommendation of the following audit topic: Financial Impact on the State and Local School Districts from the Federal No Child Left Behind Act Requirements - Representative Weyler stated that because of scheduling problems, because of all the busy schedules, especially over in the Senate, that the Legislative Performance Audit and Oversight Committee has been unable to get a meeting together since their last meeting, therefore, the Committee was not able to bring a scope statement to this meeting. Representative Weyler stated that the Committee will meet before the Fiscal Committee meets next to develop this scope statement.

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

On a motion by Senator Morse, seconded by Representative Hager, that all the requests listed on the agenda under this item be approved as submitted. MOTION ADOPTED. (FIS 05-112, FIS 05-113, FIS 05-116, and FIS 05-115)

Senator Eaton requested that in the future, the Department of Environmental Services provide PAU numbers on their requests, not account numbers.

CHAPTER 318:1, LAWS OF 2003 PAU 04-01-04-02 BUDGET FOOTNOTE C:

FIS 05-109 Department of Transportation - Edwin Smith, Director of Policy presented the request and responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Representative Hager, seconded by Senator Eaton, that the Committee approve the request from the Department of Transportation for authorization to expend \$12,500 in excess public works revenue. MOTION ADOPTED.

CHAPTER 319:1,II, LAWS OF 2003 ADDIITONAL REVENUES AND CHAPTER 319:1,IV, LAWS OF 2003 TRANSFERS AMONG ACCOUNTS:

FIS 05-108 and FIS 05-114 Department of Health and Human Services - James Fredyma presented the requests and responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Representative Hager, seconded by Senator Odell, that these requests be approved as submitted. MOTION ADOPTED.

RSA 9:17-d TRANSFER OF APPROPRIATIONS, SUPREME COURT:

FIS 05-106 Administrative Office of the Courts - On a motion by Senator Eaton, seconded by Representative Hager, that the Committee approve the request from the Administrative Office of the Courts to transfer \$11,000. MOTION ADOPTED.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Michael Buckley, Legislative Budget Assistant requested the Committee approve COLAs for employees of the Office of Legislative Budget Assistant of two percent on July 8, 2005, two percent on January 6, 2006 and two percent on July 7, 2006, as well as a change in the longevity provision and changes in the health insurance. Mr. Buckley further explained that these actions would be consistent with action of the Legislative Facilities Committee on June 14th.

On a motion by Representative Hager, seconded by Senator D'Allesandro, that the request of the Legislative Budget Assistant be approved as submitted. MOTION ADOPTED.

Senator D'Allesandro stated the Fiscal Committee should make note of the exceptional work that the Legislative Budget Office has done over the past couple of weeks in working with legislators, by providing ample information and doing it in a timely manner.

Representative Stone echoed Senator D'Allesandro's comments and added that the Office has done exceptional work in the last month and a half.

Chairman King thanked the Legislative Budget Office staff on behalf of all legislators for their hard work and dedication.

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INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS:

The informational materials were accepted and placed on file.

AUDITS:

State of New Hampshire Employee Benefit Fund Financial and Compliance Audit Report For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2004 and State of New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services Financial and Compliance Audit Report For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2004 - Chairman King stated that these reports will be presented at the next meeting of the Fiscal Committee because of time constraints.

On a motion by Senator Odell, seconded by Representative Hager, that the Committee accept the reports, place them on file and release them in the usual manner. MOTION ADOPTED.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT:

The next meeting of the Fiscal Committee will be on Wednesday, July 20, 2005 at 9:00 a.m.

On a motion by Senator D'Allesandro, seconded by Representative Hager, that the meeting adjourn. MOTION ADOPTED. (Whereupon the meeting adjourned at 9:22 a.m.)

Representative Joseph Stone, Clerk