

FISCAL COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL COURT
MINUTES

December 29, 2010

The Fiscal Committee of the General Court met on Wednesday, December 29, 2010 at 8:30 a.m. in Room 210-211 of the Legislative Office Building.

Members in attendance were as follows:

Representative Ken Weyler, Chairman
Representative Beverly Rodeschin
Representative Stephen Stepanek
Representative Robert Foose
Representative John Reagan, Alternate
Senator Chuck Morse
Senate President Peter Bragdon
Senator John Gallus
Senator Lou D'Allesandro, Alternate

Chairman Weyler opened the meeting at 8:38 a.m.

ORGANIZATION OF COMMITTEE:

On a motion by Representative Foose, seconded by Senator D'Allesandro, that Representative Rodeschin be nominated as Clerk of the Fiscal Committee.

No other nominations were received. The Chairman closed nominations and by unanimous vote Representative Rodeschin was named Clerk of the Fiscal Committee.

On a motion by Senator Bragdon, seconded by Senator D'Allesandro, that Senator Morse be nominated as Vice Chairman of the Fiscal Committee.

No other nominations were received. The Chairman closed nominations and by unanimous vote Senator Morse was named Vice Chairman of the Fiscal Committee.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:

On a motion by Representative Foose, seconded by Senator D'Allesandro, that the minutes of the November 15, 2010 be accepted as written. MOTION ADOPTED. (5-Yes, 4-Abstained)

RSA 14:30 APPOINTMENT AND COMPENSATION OF LEGISLATIVE BUDGET ASSISTANT:

On a motion by Senator D'Allesandro, seconded by Senator Morse, that Jeffrey Pattison be appointed as the Legislative Budget Assistant, pursuant to the provisions of RSA 14:30, for a two-year term at Salary Grade R. MOTION ADOPTED.

ADOPTION OF FISCAL COMMITTEE RULES AND PROCEDURES:

Chairman Weyler requested that Jeffrey Pattison, Legislative Budget Assistant brief the Committee on the suggested motions that would continue the past practices of the Fiscal Committee.

Chairman Weyler entertained a motion to adopt the recommendations of the first three bullets.

On a motion by Representative Foose, seconded by Senator D'Allesandro, that the Committee accept the following three (3) committee rules and procedures:

- That the Fiscal Committee require any requests made to the Fiscal Committee requesting new positions authorized by RSA 124:15, that extend beyond the current budgeted biennium, be amended to authorize them only through the end of the current biennium.
- That the Committee authorize the Chairman of the Fiscal Committee to have signature approval authority for transfers that are in accordance with RSA 9:16-a or Laws of 2010, Chapter 4:5 and less than \$25,000, and that the Legislative Budget Assistant be directed to prepare a report for the Fiscal Committee on a monthly basis on all such transfers which will be included on the agenda under informational materials.
- That any item listed on the Fiscal Committee agenda under RSA 9:16-a, Transfer Authorized, RSA 14:30-a, Acceptance and Expenditure of Funds Over \$50,000 from any Non-State Source and RSA 124:15, Positions Restricted and Laws of 2010, Chapter 4:5, Transfer of Federal Funds, shall be placed on a consent calendar and voted on as a block. Any member may request that any item be removed from the consent calendar for further discussion and/or clarification prior to or during the Fiscal Committee meeting. MOTION ADOPTED.

On a motion by Senator Morse, seconded by Senator Bragdon, that the Committee table the following LBA administrative procedures:

- Authorize the Legislative Budget Assistant to grant step increases for employees of the LBA Office on the employee's anniversary dates, and at such other times for exceptional service, as determined by the Legislative Budget Assistant. The Legislative Budget Assistant will inform the Fiscal Committee in writing, when these step increases have been granted. Further, when any LBA employee is promoted from one position to another, the Legislative Budget Assistant will seek approval from the Chairman of the Fiscal Committee, and filling a vacancy or hiring a new individual in the LBA Office would be brought before the full Fiscal Committee. MOTION ADOPTED to table until the next meeting of the Fiscal Committee.

Office of Legislative Budget Assistant – Jeffry Pattison, Legislative Budget Assistant, requested permission to fill one vacant position in the Office of Legislative Budget Assistant, Budget Division.

On a motion by Senator Morse, seconded by Representative Stepanek, that the Committee approve the request of the Legislative Budget Assistant to fill one vacant position in the Office of Legislative Budget Assistant, Budget Division. MOTION ADOPTED.

LATE ITEM:

FIS 11-001 Department of Administrative Services – Linda Hodgdon, Commissioner, and Edgar Carter, Comptroller, Department of Administrative Services, presented the request and responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Senator D’Allesandro, seconded by Representative Foose, that the Committee **amend** and approve the request of the Department of Administrative Services for an extension for the release of the State of New Hampshire Comprehensive Annual Financial Report **to be no later than the date of January 21, 2011**. MOTION ADOPTED

MISCELLANEOUS:

Jeffry Pattison, Legislative Budget Assistant, requested permission of the Committee to release publicly the State of New Hampshire Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2010, the Department of Transportation, Turnpike System Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2010, the New Hampshire Lottery Commission Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2010, the FY 2010 Annual Reports of the UNIQUE College Investing Plan and The Fidelity Advisor 529 Plan as soon as they are available.

On a motion by Senator D’Allesandro, seconded by Representative Foose, that the Committee approve the request of the Office of Legislative Budget Assistant to release publicly the State of New Hampshire Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2010, the Department of Transportation, Turnpike System Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2010, the New Hampshire Lottery Commission Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2010, the FY 2010 Annual Reports of the UNIQUE College Investing Plan and The Fidelity Advisor 529 Plan as soon as they are available. MOTION ADOPTED.

ADJOURNMENT:

The next regular meeting of the Fiscal Committee was set for Friday, January 21, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. (Whereupon the meeting adjourned.)