

FISCAL COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL COURT  
MINUTES

February 16, 2024

The Fiscal Committee of the General Court met on Friday, February 16, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. in Room 210-211 of the Legislative Office Building.

Members in attendance were as follows:

Representative Ken Weyler, Chairman  
Representative Keith Erf, Clerk  
Representative Jess Edwards  
Representative Mary Jane Wallner  
Representative Peter Leishman  
Representative David Huot (Alternate)  
Representative Gerald Griffin (Alternate)  
Senator James Gray, Vice Chairman  
Senate President Jeb Bradley  
Senator Regina Birdsell  
Senator Lou D'Allesandro  
Senator Cindy Rosenwald

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

LATE ITEM:

FIS 24-072 Office Of The Governor – Governor Christopher T. Sununu presented the request and responded to questions of the Committee. Warren Perry, Deputy Adjutant General, Department of Military Affairs and Veterans Services was also present to respond to Committee questions.

On a motion by Senator Gray, seconded by Representative Edwards, that the Committee approve the request of the Office Of The Governor to authorize expenditures in the amount of \$850,000 in general funds, pursuant to RSA 9:13-d, to facilitate a state active-duty operation of the New Hampshire National Guard in support of security activities at the southern United States border through June 15, 2024.

A roll call was taken, and the results were as follows:

Representative Edwards – Yes  
Representative Erf – Yes  
Representative Leishman – No  
Representative Wallner – No  
Senator Gray – Yes  
Senator Bradley – Yes  
Senator Birdsell – Yes

Senator Rosenwald – No  
Senator D’Allesandro – No  
Representative Weyler – Yes (6-Yes; 4-No)  
MOTION ADOPTED

The Department of Military Affairs and Veterans Services will provide detail of how the \$850,000 expenditure will be spent as requested by the Committee.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:

On a motion by Senator Gray, seconded by Senator Bradley, that the Committee approve the minutes of the January 19, 2024 meeting as written. MOTION ADOPTED.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

CONSENT CALENDAR

As announced by the Chair, the following items were removed from the Consent Calendar to be acted on individually;

- Tab 3 Pursuant to RSA 9:16-a, II.  
FIS 24-060
- Tab 5 Pursuant to RSA 14:30-a, VI. and RSA 9:16-a, II.  
FIS 24-061
- Tab 7 Pursuant to RSA 14:30-a, VI. and RSA 124:15  
FIS 24-049
- Tab 8 Pursuant to ARPA RSA 14:30-a, VI.  
FIS 24-038, 24-039, 24-040, 24-041, 24-070

On a motion by Senator Gray, seconded by Senator Bradley, that the Committee approve all the remaining requests under the Consent Calendar, Tabs 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, and 9 as submitted. MOTION ADOPTED. [TAB 3 pursuant to RSA 9:16-a, II, FIS 24-035 Department of Natural and Cultural Resources – authorization to transfer \$100,000 in other funds and create a new expenditure class code through June 30, 2025, and FIS 24-036 Department of Transportation – authorization to transfer \$1,195,000 in turnpike funds between various accounts and classes through June 30, 2024; TAB 4 pursuant to RSA 14:30-a, VI., FIS 24-037 Department of Military Affairs and Veterans Services – authorization to accept and expend \$2,000,000 in additional federal funds through June 30, 2025; TAB 6 pursuant to RSA 14:30-a, VI, and RSA 9:16-c, I., FIS 24-047 Department of Safety – authorization through June 30, 2025 to; 1) accept and expend \$500,000 in federal funds, and 2) transfer \$103,250 in federal funds in and among classes within an accounting unit, and FIS 24-048 Department of Safety –

authorization through June 30, 2025 to; 1) accept and expend \$42,047,880 in federal funds through June 30, 2025, and 2) transfer \$12,750,000 in federal funds in and among classes within an accounting unit; TAB 7 pursuant to RSA 14:30-a, VI. and RSA 124:15, FIS 24-065 Department of Business and Economic Affairs – authorization through June 30, 2025 to; 1) accept and expend \$2,920,000 in federal funds, and 2) contingent upon approval of Request #1, establish Class 046-Consultants, FIS 24-066 Department of Business and Economic Affairs – authorization through June 30, 2025 to; 1) accept and expend \$282,000 in federal funds, and 2) contingent upon the approval of Request #1, establish one (1) full-time temporary Program Specialist IV position, and FIS 24-067 Department of Health and Human Services – authorization through June 30, 2025 to; 1) accept and expend \$158,282 in federal funds, and 2) contingent upon approval of Request #1, establish one (1) temporary full-time Miscellaneous Community and Social Service Specialists-6 (LG 25) position; TAB 8 pursuant to ARPA RSA 14:30-a, VI., FIS 24-042 Governor’s Office for Emergency Relief And Recovery – authorization to accept and expend \$1,036,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) through June 30, 2025, FIS 24-043 Department of Information Technology – authorization to amend FIS 21-141, approved on June 8, 2021 and as extended (FIS 23-166) on May 19, 2023, by transferring \$212,500 in federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) in and among classes within an accounting unit through June 30, 2024, FIS 24-045 Department of Safety – authorization to accept and expend \$736,116 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) through September 30, 2024, FIS 24-046 Department of Safety – authorization to accept and expend \$2,750,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (FRF) through September 30, 2024, FIS 24-062 Department of Business and Economic Affairs – authorization to accept and expend \$5,337,621 in federal American Rescue Plan Act Coronavirus Capital Project Funds through June 30, 2025, and FIS 24-064 Department of Safety – authorization to accept and expend \$3,370,554 in federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (FRF) through November 30, 2024; and TAB 9 pursuant to ARPA RSA 14:30-a, VI and RSA 124:15, FIS 24-050 Department of Safety – authorization through November 30, 2024 to; 1) amend FIS 21-350, approved November 19, 2021, to reallocate funds in the amount of \$697,299 in federal funds and to extend the end date from June 30, 2024 to November 30, 2024, and 2) contingent upon approval of Request #1, amend FIS 21-350, approved November 19, 2021, and extend the end date from June 30, 2024 to November 30, 2024 for a full-time temporary Program Specialist III position, and FIS 24-063 Department of Business and Economic Affairs – authorization through June 30, 2025 to; 1) amend FIS 22-150, approved on April 15, 2022 and as extended (FIS 23-166) on May 19, 2023, by extending the end date from June 30, 2024 to June 30, 2025, repurposing program funds, and reallocating \$380,000 in federal funds, 2) contingent upon approval of Request #1, accept and expend \$380,000 in federal ARPA SFR Funds, and 3) authorization to amend FIS 22-117, approved on March 18, 2022 and as extended (FIS 23-166) on May 19, 2024, by extending the end date from June 30, 2024 to June 30, 2025, and 4) contingent upon approval of Request #2 and #3, authorization to extend three (3) full-time temporary positions (9T3220, 9T3233, and 9T 3234) created with the approval of FIS 22-117, on March 18, 2022 and as extended by FIS 23-166 on May 19, 2023, from June 30, 2024 through June 30, 2025]

RSA 9:16-a, II. TRANSFERS AUTHORIZED:

CONSENT CALENDAR

FIS 24-060 New Hampshire Veterans Home – Kimberly MacKay, Commandant, and Janine Norkiewicz, Business Administrator, New Hampshire Veterans Home responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Senator D'Allesandro, seconded by Senator Gray, that the Committee approve the request of the New Hampshire Veterans Home to transfer \$442,000 in general/federal/other funds between expenditure classes through June 30, 2024. 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

FIS 24-061 Department of Safety – Amy Newbury, Director of Administration, and Jeffrey Phillips, Assistant Director, Fire Standards and Training and Emergency Medical Services, Department of Safety responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Representative Erf, seconded by Senator D'Allesandro, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Safety through May 31, 2024 to; 1) accept and expend \$407,765 in other funds, and 2) transfer \$61,310 in other funds in and among classes within an accounting unit. 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 124:15 POSITIONS AUTHORIZED:

CONSENT CALENDAR

FIS 24-049 Department of Justice – John Formella, Attorney General, and Kathleen Carr, Director of Administration, Department of Justice responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Representative Erf, seconded by Senator Bradley, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Justice through June 30, 2025 to; 1) accept and expend \$1,306,219 in federal funds, and 2) contingent upon approval of Request #1, to establish one (1) temporary full-time Crisis Intervention and Behavioral Health Initiatives Program Coordinator (LG 25) position #9T3345. 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

FIS 24-038 Department of Agriculture, Markets and Food – Shawn Jasper, Commissioner, and Joshua Marshall, Director of Agricultural Development, Department of Agriculture, Markets and Food responded to questions of the Committee. Taylor Caswell, Executive Director, Governor's Office for Emergency Relief And Recovery was also present to respond to questions.

Senators D'Allesandro and Rosenwald stepped out of the room and were not present for the vote.

On a motion by Representative Leishman, seconded by Senator Gray, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Agriculture, Markets and Food to accept and expend \$8,000,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) through September 30, 2024. MOTION ADOPTED. (8-Yes; 0-No)

FIS 24-039 Department of Education – Frank Edelblut, Commissioner, Department of Education responded to questions of the Committee.

Senators D'Allesandro and Rosenwald rejoined the meeting at 11:15 a.m.

On a motion by Senator Bradley, seconded by Senator Gray, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Education to amend FIS 23-204, approved June 23, 2023, by reallocating \$150,000 in federal ARPA SFR funds in and among classes within an accounting unit through June 30, 2025. MOTION ADOPTED.

FIS 24-040 Governor's Office for Emergency Relief And Recovery – Taylor Caswell, Executive Director, Governor's Office for Emergency Relief And Recovery responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Senator Bradley, seconded by Senator Gray, that the Committee approve the request of the Governor's Office for Emergency Relief And Recovery to accept and expend \$200,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) through June 30, 2025. MOTION ADOPTED. (8-Yes; 2-No)

FIS 24-041 Governor's Office for Emergency Relief And Recovery – Taylor Caswell, Executive Director, Governor's Office for Emergency Relief And Recovery responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Senator Gray, seconded by Senator Bradley, that the Committee approve the request of the Governor's Office for Emergency Relief And Recovery to accept and expend \$3,600,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) through June 30, 2025. MOTION ADOPTED.

FIS 24-070 Department of Administrative Services – Charles Arlinghaus, Commissioner, Department of Administrative Services responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Senator Gray, seconded by Senator Bradley, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Administrative Services to accept and expend \$6,500,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Fiscal Recovery Fund (SFRF) through November 30, 2024. MOTION ADOPTED.

RSA 9:16-a, TRANSFERS AUTHORIZED, RSA 9:16-c, TRANSFER OF FEDERAL GRANT 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 9:17-a, III, LIMITATIONS:

REGULAR CALENDAR

FIS 24-069 Department of Health and Human Services – Nathan White, Chief Financial Officer, Department of Health and Human Services responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Senator Bradley, seconded by Senator Gray, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Health and Human Services to transfer \$45,337,120 in general funds between various class lines, decrease federal revenues in the amount of \$20,297,061, increase related other revenues in the amount of \$165,603 and create new expenditure class codes through June 30, 2025. 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 206-33-b TRANSFERS FROM FISH AND GAME FUND:

REGULAR CALENDAR

FIS 24-051 New Hampshire Fish and Game Department – Scott Mason, Executive Director, and Cory Riley, Marine Resources Program, New Hampshire Fish and Game Department responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Senator D’Allesandro, seconded by Senator Gray, that the Committee approve the request of the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department through June 30, 2025 to; 1) accept and expend \$2,409,619 in federal funds, and 2) contingent upon approval of Request #1, transfer \$352,460 in Fish and Game funds. MOTION ADOPTED.

RSA 198:15-y, III PUBLIC SCHOOL INFRASTRUCTURE FUND:

REGULAR CALENDAR

FIS 24-053 Office Of The Governor – Caitlin Davis, Director Standards and Certification, Department of Education was present to responded to questions of the Committee, however no discussion occurred.

On a motion by Senator D’Allesandro, seconded by Senator Bradley, that the Committee approve the request of the Office Of The Governor for approval through June 30, 2025 to; 1) authorize expenditures from the Public School Infrastructure Fund in the amount of \$9,668,202.68 in other funds, and 2) contingent upon approval of Request #1, and upon availability of funds remaining from closed projects previously approved, request approval to repurpose funds already authorized for expenditures from the Public School Infrastructure Fund

without further Fiscal Committee approval for school security improvement projects. MOTION ADOPTED.

FIS 24-054 Office Of The Governor – On a motion by Senator D’Allesandro, seconded by Senator Gray, that the Committee approve the request of the Office Of The Governor for approval through June 30, 2025 to; 1) authorize expenditures in the amount of \$193,244.63 in federal funds, and 2) contingent upon approval of Request #1, and upon availability of funds remaining from closed projects previously approved, request approval to repurpose funds already authorized for expenditures from School Security Funding without further Fiscal Committee approval for school security improvement projects. MOTION ADOPTED.

RSA 228:12. TRANSFERS FROM HIGHWAY SURPLUS ACCOUNT:

REGULAR CALENDAR

FIS 24-055 Department of Transportation – Danielle Chandonnet, Director of Finance, and Andre Briere, Deputy Commissioner, Department of Transportation were present to responded to questions of the Committee, however no discussion occurred.

On a motion by Senator D’Allesandro, seconded by Senator Gray, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Transportation to transfer \$6,555,000 in highway funds from the Highway Surplus Account to fund winter maintenance activities through June 30, 2024. MOTION ADOPTED.

RSA 604-A:1-b ADDITIONAL FUNDING:

REGULAR CALENDAR

FIS 24-056 Judicial Council – On a motion by Senator D’Allesandro, seconded by Senator Gray, that the Committee approve the request of the Judicial Council to receive an additional appropriation from funds not otherwise appropriated in the total amount of \$1,600,000 in general funds through June 30, 2025. MOTION ADOPTED.

CHAPTER 106. LAWS OF 2023, AGENCY FOOTNOTE:

REGULAR CALENDAR

FIS 24-052 Department of Corrections – Lisa Stone, Director, Division of Administration, Paula Mattis, Director of Medical and Forensic Services, and Benjamin Carbone, Chief Pharmacist, Medical and Forensic Services, Department of Corrections responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Senator Gray, seconded by Senator D’Allesandro, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Corrections for additional funding in the amount of \$4,006,000 in general funds through June 30, 2024. MOTION ADOPTED.

MISCELLANEOUS:

None

INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS:

The informational items were accepted and placed on file.

AUDITS:

The UNIQUE College Investing Plan, Annual Report, September 30, 2023 and The Fidelity Advisor 529 Plan, Annual Report, September 30, 2023 – Christine Young, Director of Audits, Audit Division, Office of Legislative Budget Assistant, Declan Byrne, Partner, PricewaterhouseCoopers, and Monica Mezzapelle, State Treasurer, Treasury Department, presented the reports and responded to questions of the Committee.

This report was accepted, placed on file, and released at the November 9, 2023 meeting of the Fiscal Committee.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

The next regular meeting of the Fiscal Committee was scheduled for Friday, March 15, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. to be held in the Legislative Office Building, Room 210-211.

On a motion by Senator D'Allesandro, seconded by Senator Gray, that the meeting adjourn. (Whereupon the meeting adjourned at 11:53 a.m.)

  
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Representative Keith Erf, Clerk