

FISCAL COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL COURT

MINUTES

October 18, 2024

The Fiscal Committee of the General Court met on Friday, October 18, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. 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 Gerald Griffin (Alternate)  
Representative Maureen Mooney (Alternate)  
Senator James Gray, Vice Chairman  
Senator Howard Pearl (Alternate)  
Senator Regina Birdsell  
Senator Lou D'Allesandro  
Senator Cindy Rosenwald

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

NEW BUSINESS:

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 24-371 Governor's Office for Emergency Relief And Recovery – Governor Christopher Sununu presented the request and responded to Committee questions. Lori Weaver, Commissioner, Department of Health and Human Services and Taylor Caswell, Executive Director, Governor's Office for Emergency Relief And Recovery was also present to respond to questions.

Representative Edwards, to make sure the intent was clear on items to be taken care of and part of the public record, asked the following; 1) to have Hampstead Hospital and the new YDC as an integrated operation and ensure that the walkway that connects Hampstead Hospital and the new YDC be covered and secured, to which the Governor responded it was not included in the funds as the bid was just under \$1 million for the walkway, 2) as there has been trouble with integrating the security of the operations between the two, he requested to know if that was going to be resolved in the initial buildout, and 3) worried whether or not drones may be able to make drops into the recreation area, to which Commissioner Weaver responded that the

department was working with the Department of Administrative Services, Division of Public Works for no fly zones.

Senator Birdsell asked if there had been any consideration for these funds to reimburse the Town of Hampstead for emergency response spent within the past year. The Governor explained that ARPA funds are intended as one-time money, not to be spent on ongoing costs.

Senator Rosenwald questioned Commissioner Weaver regarding the PRTF and how did a 12 bed unit turn into 6 bed unit, and now more money to make it what was originally planned? Why was planning not done better 2 years ago when planning the first time?

On a motion by Senator Gray, seconded by Representative Edwards, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Health and Human Services through June 30, 2025 on behalf of various state agencies to accept and expend an amount totaling \$13,774,855 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) consisting of; (A) Department of Health and Human Services \$7,738,973, (B) Department of Corrections \$685,882, (C) Department of Environmental Services \$500,000, (D) Department of Administrative Services \$3,450,000, and (E) Governor's Office for Emergency Relief And Recovery \$1,400,000. MOTION ADOPTED. (10-Yes; 0-No)

#### ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:

On a motion by Senator Gray, seconded by Senator D'Allesandro, that the Committee approve the minutes of the September 13, 2024 meeting as written. MOTION ADOPTED. (10-Yes; 0-No)

#### OLD BUSINESS:

FIS 24-320 Late Item Governor's Office for Emergency Relief And Recovery – On a motion by Senator Birdsell, seconded by Senator Gray, that the item be removed from the table. MOTION ADOPTED. (7-Yes; 3-No)

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

On a motion by Senator Birdsell, seconded by Senator Gray, that the Committee approve the request of the Governor's Office for Emergency Relief And Recovery to accept and expend \$500,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Fiscal Recovery (SFRF) funds through June 30, 2025.

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

Representative Edwards – Yes

Representative Erf – Yes  
Representative Leishman – Yes  
Representative Wallner – No  
Senator Gray – Yes  
Senator Pearl (Alternate) – Yes  
Senator Birdsell – Yes  
Senator Rosenwald – No  
Senator D’Allesandro – No  
Representative Weyler – Yes  
MOTION ADOPTED. (7-Yes; 3-No)

NEW BUSINESS:

CONSENT CALENDAR

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

- Tab 4 Pursuant to RSA 14:30-a, VI.  
FIS 24-335, FIS 24-339, FIS 24-340, FIS 24-356, FIS 24-362
- Tab 5 Pursuant to RSA 14:30-a, VI. and RSA 124:15  
FIS 24-358
- Tab 6 Pursuant to RSA 124:15  
FIS 24-343
- Tab 7 Pursuant to ARPA RSA 14:30-a, VI.  
FIS 24-353, FIS 24-371, FIS 24-372

On a motion by Senator Gray, seconded by Senator Birdsell, that the Committee approve all the remaining requests as submitted under the Consent Calendar, Tabs 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7. MOTION ADOPTED. (10-Yes; 0-No) [TAB 3 pursuant to RSA 9:16-a. II., FIS 24-324 Department of Military Affairs and Veterans Services – authorization to transfer \$130,000 in federal funds through June 30, 2025, FIS 24-349 Department of Agriculture, Markets and Food – authorization to; 1) transfer \$132,882 in other funds in and among classes within an accounting unit through June 30, 2025, and FIS 24-350 Department of Health and Human Services – authorization to transfer \$699,455 in general/other funds through June 30, 2025; TAB 4 pursuant to RSA 14:30-a, VI., FIS 24-330 Department of Administrative Services – authorization to accept and expend \$244,274 in other funds through June 30, 2025, FIS 24-331 Department of Business and Economic Affairs – authorization to accept and expend \$500,000 in federal funds through June 30, 2025, FIS 24-332 Department of Energy – authorization to accept and expend \$2,471,268 in federal funds through June 30, 2025, FIS 24-334 Department of Health and Human Services – authorization to accept and expend \$131,818 in federal funds through June 30, 2025, FIS 24-336 Department of Health and Human Services – authorization to accept and expend \$177,033 in federal funds through June 30, 2025, FIS 24-337 Department of Health and Human Services – authorization to accept and expend \$978,802 in federal funds through June 30, 2025, FIS 24-359 New Hampshire Fish and Game Department – authorization through June 30, 2025 to; 1) accept and expend

\$749,926 in federal funds, and 2) contingent upon approval of Request #1 and G&C action (#3), accept and expend a donation in the amount of \$97,041 in other funds from the Great Bay Stewards, to be used as part of the federal match requirement for Action #1, and FIS 24-366 Department of Environmental Services – authorization through June 30, 2025 to; 1) accept and expend \$520,260 in federal funds, and 2) amend FIS 23-216, approved August 11, 2023, to transfer \$2,392 in federal funds between classes; TAB 5 pursuant to RSA 14:30-a, VI. and RSA 124:15, FIS 24-354 Department of Energy – authorization through June 30, 2025 to; 1) accept and expend \$8,403,395 in federal funds, and 2) contingent upon approval of Request #1, create one (1) temporary full-time Accountant (13-2010 Accounts and Auditors-4, Pay Band 5); TAB 6 pursuant to RSA 124:15, FIS 24-342 Department of Business and Economic Affairs – authorization to; 1) establish one (1) full-time Urban and Regional Planners-3 (19-3050 SOC19, Pay Band 7) position through June 30, 2025; and TAB 7 pursuant to ARPA RSA 14:30-a, VI., FIS 24-325 Department of Information Technology – authorization to amend FIS 21-141, approved June 8, 2021, with subsequent approval on (FIS 23-166) May 19, 2023, and (FIS 24-182) May 17, 2024, by reallocating \$492,867 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) in and among classes within an accounting unit through June 30, 2025, FIS 24-333 Governor’s Office for Emergency Relief And Recovery – authorization to accept and expend \$275,533 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) through June 30, 2025, FIS 24-338 Police Standards and Training Council – authorization to amend FIS 21-144, approved June 8, 2021, with subsequent approval on (FIS 23-166) May 19, 2023, and (FIS 24-180) May 17, 2024, to reallocate \$26,562 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) between classes through June 30, 2025, FIS 24-341 Department of Safety – authorization to accept and expend an additional \$5,600,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) through June 30, 2025, FIS 24-352 Department of Business and Economic Affairs – authorization to accept and expend \$500,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) through June 30, 2025, FIS 24-355 Governor’s Office for Emergency Relief And Recovery – authorization to accept and expend \$750,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) through June 30, 2025, FIS 24-357 Department of Health and Human Services – authorization to accept and expend \$400,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) through June 30, 2025, FIS 24-360 Governor’s Office for Emergency Relief And Recovery – authorization to accept and expend \$500,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) through June 30, 2025, FIS 24-361 Department of Health and Human Services – authorization to retroactively amend FIS 24-153, approved May 17, 2024, to extend the end date from September 30, 2024 to June 30, 2025, effective retroactive to October 1, 2024, FIS 24-363 Department of Natural and Cultural Resources – authorization to amend FIS 23-201, approved June 23, 2023, by reallocating \$120,000 in federal funds between class lines through June 30, 2025, FIS 24-367 Department of Environmental Services – authorization to amend FIS 22-195, approved May 20, 2022, with subsequent approval on (FIS 22-330) October 14, 2022, (FIS 23-166) May 19, 2023, (FIS 24-182) May 17, 2024, and (FIS 24-207) June 20, 2024, by transferring \$112,180 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds in and among class lines within an accounting unit through June 30, 2025, FIS 24-368 Department of Environmental Services – authorization to amend FIS 22-406, approved November 18, 2022, with subsequent approval on (FIS 24-089) March 15, 2024, (FIS 24-182) May 17, 2024, and (FIS 24-271) on August 16, 2024, by transferring \$134,896 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds between class lines through June 30, 2025, FIS 24-370 Department of Environmental Services – authorization through June 30, 2025 to; 1) amend FIS 21-138, approved June 8, 2021, with subsequent approval on (FIS 22-111) March 18, 2022, (FIS 23-166) May 19, 2023, (FIS 23-287) October 19, 2023, (FIS 24-185) May 17, 2024, and (FIS 24-297) September 13, 2024, by transferring \$113,504 in

federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds between class lines, and 2) accept additional federal ARPA funds not to exceed \$8,930,000]

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

FIS 24-335 Department of Health and Human Services – Nathan White, Chief Financial Officer, and Karen Hebert, Director, Division of Economic Stability, Department of Health and Human Services responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Senator Gray, seconded by Senator Birdsell, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Health and Human Services to accept and expend \$5,262,840 in federal funds through June 30, 2025. MOTION ADOPTED. (9-Yes; 1-No)

FIS 24-339 Police Standards and Training Council – John Scippa, Director, Police Standards and Training Council responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Senator Birdsell, seconded by Senator Gray, that the Committee approve the request of the Police Standards and Training Council to accept and expend \$75,000 in other funds through February 28, 2025. MOTION ADOPTED. (10-Yes; 0-No)

FIS 24-340 Department of Safety – Amy Newbury, Director of Administration, and Steven Lavoie, Assistant Commissioner, Department of Safety responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Representative Leishman, seconded by Senator D’Allesandro, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Safety to accept and expend \$699,455 in other funds through June 30, 2025. MOTION ADOPTED. (10-Yes; 0-No)

FIS 24-356 Department of Health and Human Services – Nathan White, Chief Financial Officer, and Iain Watt, Director of Public Health, Department of Health and Human Services responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Representative Edwards, seconded by Senator Birdsell, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Health and Human Services to accept and expend \$1,321,430 in federal funds through June 30, 2025. MOTION ADOPTED. (10-Yes; 0-No)

FIS 24-362 Department of Health and Human Services – Nathan White, Chief Financial Officer, and Melissa Hardy, Director, Division of Long Term Supports and Services, Department of Health and Human Services responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Representative Edwards, seconded by Senator Pearl, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Health and Human Services to accept and expend \$111,375 in federal funds through June 30, 2025. MOTION ADOPTED. (10-Yes; 0-No)

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 24-358 Department of Health and Human Services – Nathan White, Chief Financial Officer, and Henry Lipman, Director, Division of Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Senator D’Allesandro, seconded by Senator Birdsell, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Health and Human Services through June 30, 2025 to; 1) accept and expend \$500,000 in federal funds, and 2) contingent upon approval of Request #1, authorization to establish one (1) full-time temporary 13-1080 Logisticians and Project Management Specialists-6, position #9T3360, SOC13 wage schedule, pay band 7. MOTION ADOPTED. (10-Yes; 0-No)

RSA 124:15 POSITIONS AUTHORIZED:

CONSENT CALENDAR

FIS 24-343 Department of Health and Human Services – Nathan White, Chief Financial Officer, and Iain Watt, Director of Public Health, Department of Health and Human Services responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Representative Erf, seconded by Representative Edwards, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Health and Human Services to retroactively amend FIS 21-242, approved August 20, 2021, with subsequent approval on (FIS 22-068) February 18, 2022, (FIS 22-252) July 22, 2022, (FIS 23-024) January 27, 2023, (FIS 23-167) May 19, 2023, and (FIS 23-296) October 19, 2023, by extending Position #9T3107, 19-1040 Medical Scientists-2, SOC19 wage schedule, pay band 7, effective retroactive to June 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025. MOTION ADOPTED. (10-Yes; 0-No)

Representative Erf requested to know of the 7 properties that were inspected related to lead levels in 2023, how many were found to have excessive levels of lead? The Department will find that information and provide it to the Committee.

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 24-353 Department of Health and Human Services – Lori Weaver, Commissioner, and Nathan White, Chief Financial Officer, Department of Health and Human Services responded to questions of the Committee. Charles Arlinghaus, Commissioner, Department of Administrative Services was also present to respond to questions.

On a motion by Senator Gray, seconded by Senator Pearl, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Health and Human Services to accept and expend federal funds from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) in an amount not to exceed \$5,000,000 through June 30, 2025.

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

Representative Edwards – Yes  
Representative Erf – Yes  
Representative Leishman – No  
Representative Wallner – Yes  
Senator Gray – Yes  
Senator Pearl (Alternate) – Yes  
Senator Birdsell – No  
Senator Rosenwald – Yes  
Senator D’Allesandro – Yes  
Representative Weyler – No (7-Yes; 3-No)  
MOTION ADOPTED.

FIS 24-372 Governor’s Office for Emergency Relief And Recovery – Taylor Caswell, Executive Director, Governor’s Office for Emergency Relief And Recovery, and Charles Arlinghaus, Commissioner, Department of Administrative Services 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 Governor’s Office for Emergency Relief And Recovery to accept and expend all American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) that remain unobligated prior to the US Treasury obligation deadline of December 31, 2024 upon approval of the Fiscal Committee through June 30, 2025. MOTION ADOPTED. (10-Yes; 0-No)

RSA 228:21-a CONTINUATION; RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION:

REGULAR CALENDAR

FIS 24-365 Department of Transportation – Danielle Chandonnet, Director of Finance, Department of Transportation responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Representative Leishman, seconded by Senator Rosenwald, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Transportation through June 30, 2025 to; 1) expend funds in support of the Turnpike Winter Maintenance Employee Retention Program (WMERP), and transfer funds from the Turnpike General Reserve Account in the amount of \$523,127. MOTION ADOPTED. (10-Yes; 0-No)

RSA 362-F:10, I, RENEWABLE ENERGY FUND:

REGULAR CALENDAR

FIS 24-351 Department of Energy – Joshua Elliott, Director of Policy and Programs, Department of Energy responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Senator Birdsell, seconded by Senator Pearl, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Energy to create one (1) temporary full-time Utility Analyst II (13-1190 Miscellaneous Business Operations Specialists-5, Pay Band 6) position. MOTION ADOPTED.

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 Pearl (Alternate) – Yes  
Senator Birdsell – Yes  
Senator Rosenwald – No  
Senator D'Allesandro – No  
Representative Weyler – Yes (6-Yes; 4-No)  
MOTION ADOPTED.

MISCELLANEOUS:

FIS 24-344 State Treasury – On a motion by Senator Gray, seconded by Senator Birdsell, that the Committee approve the request of the State Treasury, on behalf of the College Tuition Savings Plan Advisory Commission, for the release and distribution of the audited financial statements of the UNIQUE College Investing Plan and Fidelity Advisor 529 Plan for the year

ended September 30, 2024 upon completion of the audits and prior to the presentation of the audit results to the Fiscal Committee of the General Court. MOTION ADOPTED. (10-Yes; 0-No)

FIS 24-369 Office Of Legislative Budget Assistant – On a motion by Senator Gray, seconded by Senator Birdsell, that the Committee approve the request of the Office of Legislative Budget Assistant to fill one position. MOTION ADOPTED. (10-Yes; 0-No)

LATE ITEMS:

FIS 24-373 Late Item Dept of Information Technology – On a motion by Representative Leishman, seconded by Senator D’Allesandro, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Information Technology to amend FIS 24-314, approved September 13, 2024, by reallocating \$365,700 in federal ARPA SFRF in and among classes within an accounting unit through June 30, 2025 (Originally approved (FIS 22-265) July 22, 2022, with subsequent approval (23-166) on May 19, 2023, and (FIS 24-182) May 17, 2024). MOTION ADOPTED. (10-Yes; 0-No)

FIS 24-374 Late Item Dept of Information Technology – On a motion by Senator Birdsell, seconded by Senator Rosenwald, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Information Technology to amend FIS 21-141, approved June 8, 2021, with subsequent approval (23-166) on May 19, 2023 and (FIS 24-182) May 17, 2024, by reallocating \$411,096 in federal ARPA SFRF in and among classes within an accounting unit through June 30, 2025. MOTION ADOPTED. (10-Yes; 0-No)

INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS:

Nathan White, Chief Financial Officer, Department of Health and Human Services, responded to question of the Committee pertaining to; FIS 24-345 Department of Health and Human Services – Operating Statistics Dashboard SFY25 report through August 31, 2024, with the exception of data for the Health and Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Caseloads, which is through July 31, 2024, and further data for the Developmental Disabilities, Acquired Brain Disorders, and In-Home Supports waitlist through June 30, 2023.

Representative Edwards requested a visual to show the history and progress on complying with mission zero objectives.

AUDITS:

State of New Hampshire, Judicial Council, Internal Control Review, Revenues and Expenditures, October 2024 – Christine Young, Director of Audits, and James LaRiviere, Senior Audit Manager, Audit Division, Office of Legislative Budget Assistant, presented the report and

responded to questions of the Committee. Jay Buckley, Executive Director, and Nina Gardner, Chair, Judicial Council were present to respond to questions of the Committee.

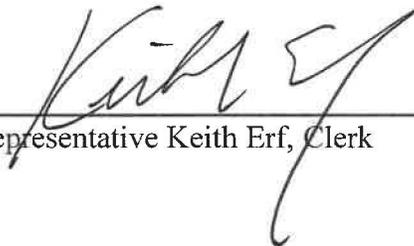
The Committee requested a progress report as the Council proceeds with rectifying the audit findings.

The audit was approved to release prior to presentation at the September 13, 2024 meeting.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

The next regular meeting of the Fiscal Committee was previously scheduled for 10:00 a.m. Friday, November 15, 2024.

On a motion by The Chair the meeting adjourned at 12:25 p.m.



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Representative Keith Erf, Clerk