

JOINT LEGISLATIVE FISCAL COMMITTEE

Legislative Office Building, Rooms 210-211

Concord, NH

Friday, March 21, 2025

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Rep. Kenneth Weyler, Chair

Rep. Keith Erf

Rep. Jess Edwards

Rep. Mary Jane Wallner

Rep. Peter Leishman

Rep. Gerald Griffin (Alt.)

Rep. Maureen Mooney (Alt.)

Sen. James Gray

Sen. Sharon Carson

Sen. Regina Birdsell

Sen. Tara Reardon

Sen. Cindy Rosenwald

(1) Acceptance of Minutes of the February 21, 2025 meeting

KENNETH WEYLER, State Representative, Rockingham County, District #14 and Chairman: All right. Being after 10 o'clock, I will call to order the Friday, March 21st, 2025, meeting of the Fiscal Committee, and note that we have Senator Reardon filling in for Senator Watters.

Okay. Item number one. Acceptance --

JAMES GRAY, State Senator, Senate District #06: Mr. Chair.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Senator Gray.

****** SEN. GRAY: Um -- just so that everybody knows, I'm making the request now to special order the late item to the end of the agenda after the Informational items and all.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: All right. Motion to move it to the end. Is there a second?

SHARON CARSON, State Senator and Senate President, Senate District #14: Second.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: All in favor? Any opposed? Done.

*** **{MOTION ADOPTED}**

SEN. GRAY: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Okay. Item number one, acceptance of minutes of February 21st.

** SENATE PRESIDENT CARSON: So move.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Motion by Senator Carson, second by Senator Rosenwald to accept the minutes. Is there any additions or corrections? Seeing none, all in favor say aye? Opposed no? That is adopted.

*** **{MOTION ADOPTED}**

(2) **Old Business**

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: I don't believe we have any Old Business.

CONSENT CALENDAR

(3) **RSA 9:16-a, Transfers Authorized:**

(4) **RSA 9:16-c, Transfer of Federal Grant Funds:**

(5) **RSA 14:30-a, VI Fiscal Committee Approval Required for Acceptance and Expenditure of Funds Over \$100,000 from Any Non-State Source:**

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: We have a Consent Calendar. We have a shorter calendar than usual. You have five items on Consent, and they are on Tabs 3, 4, and 5. Is there anything to be removed? Senator Rosenwald.

CINDY ROSENWALD, State Senator, Senate District #13: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'd like to remove from Tab 5 item number 25-06 --

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: We will remove 25-065 for full discussion. Any other removals requested by Committee Members? Seeing none. I'll entertain a motion to adopt the other four items.

****** SENATE PRESIDENT CARSON: So move.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Motion by Senator Carson, second by Senator -- Senator Blaisdell.

SEN. GRAY: Birdsell.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Senator Birdsell. I'm sorry. I've only known you for 20 years, and I've made that mistake too many times.

REGINA BIRDSELL, State Senator, Senate District #19: It's okay.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: All right. Uh -- the rest of it to be adopted. Is there any further discussion? You ready for the question? All in favor say aye? Opposed no?

***** {MOTION ADOPTED}**

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Okay. The rest of the Consent Calendar is adopted, and we'll now go to Tab 5, item number 25-065, Department of Safety, and see who we have here from the Department of Safety on the item. Excuse me. Please introduce yourselves.

AMY NEWBURY, Director, Division of Administration,
Department of Safety: Good morning. Amy Newbury, Director of
 Administration with the Department of Safety.

CHRIS STORM, Lieutenant, Division of State Police,
Department of Safety: Lieutenant Chris Storm with the
 Support -- Special Services in the Office of Highway Safety.

JESS EDWARDS, State Representative, Rockingham County,
District #31: Chair, can we ask them to get the mic closer. I'm
 really {Inaudible}.

LIEUTENANT STORM: I can yell.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: And if you'd push your button. Yeah,
 there you go.

MS. NEWBURY: Amy Newbury, Director of Administration with
 the Department of Safety.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Senator Rosenwald is recognized for
 questions.

SEN. ROSENWALD: Thank you, Mr. Chair. In your explanation
 at the top of Page 2, you say that these UAS, the drones have
 become increasingly accessible and affordable, and the potential
 risk associated with their misuse are also on the rise. But then
 you say to mitigate potential threats to public safety,
 security, and privacy, et cetera, et cetera, in your then
 following explanation, I don't see any reference to how this
 item improves privacy.

So my question is just could you explain to us, please, how
 adopting this item will improve privacy.

LIEUTENANT STORM: Um -- so as far as the privacy aspects of
 it would be is when these -- this -- this particular system is
 going to be used for special events. It's going to be used
 for -- um -- um -- critical infrastructure pieces to -- to

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locate if people are going against what they call Part 107, which is a part of the CFR, which has to do with flying drones. Um -- so there's nothing -- air space is sovereign. So you can fly over anything. It's just like a 737 coming over your house. Like we can never stop anything from actually flying over the air space.

So as far as the privacy goes, if there is something called the TFR for the particular location which is a Temporary Flight Restriction, that will give us the ability to go talk to that individual and say we need you to put that drone down for not only safety, whatever the critical infrastructure that has that particular TFR. Say the President was visiting, they'll have temporary TFRs up. So that system will help us not only locate where the drone is, but also locate where the operator is to go then speak with that individual.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Further.

SEN. ROSENWALD: Thank you. Isn't it really about security though, not privacy?

LIEUTENANT STORM: I would say it's definitely more security than privacy.

SEN. ROSENWALD: Okay. So you're just using privacy when you mean security.

LIEUTENANT STORM: In that sense I would say yes. Yes, Senator.

SEN. ROSENWALD: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Representative Edwards.

REP. EDWARDS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I'm curious about this. I -- I -- based on what we saw a year ago, there -- there is nothing in this capability to interdict a drone that we want taken down.

LIEUTENANT STORM: That's correct. So --

REP. EDWARDS: And -- and -- and the only way we have to take down a drone is to talk to the operator and request it to be taken down; is that correct?

LIEUTENANT STORM: As far as the State or local municipalities or county municipality, yes. So right now there's only certain -- um -- groups that are actually authorized to mitigate drones as far as the Federal Law. So DOD, DOE, the U.S. Secret Service, the FBI, and Homeland Security for events of 30,000 or more people.

REP. EDWARDS: Okay. And then final.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Follow-up.

REP. EDWARDS: And then so we probably we don't have, but maybe the Secret Service or somebody, has the ability to blind a drone rather than just take it down?

LIEUTENANT STORM: Yeah, I've got to be careful on where we start talking.

REP. EDWARDS: Yeah, I don't want details of security details but --

LIEUTENANT STORM: The answer's yes.

REP. EDWARDS: All right. Thank -- thank you.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Senator Birdsell for a question.

SEN. BIRDSELL: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Thank you for taking my question. So let's just a scenario like they had in California where the Super Soaker was taken down by a drone. So would you turnaround and be able to find out who that person was and -- but -- and have them taken down, but they've already done damage to a major piece of fire -- fire equipment. So there's no

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way to see that that is in -- um -- no air -- airspace or not supposed to be and there's no way to take it down?

LIEUTENANT STORM: So there is no mitigate -- so we cannot mitigate. They are working on that in the federal level to pass that down to the states and pass that -- farther past that down. But as of right now, there is no mitigation capability.

This will give us the best vigilance to be able to see where those are, and then it connects basically through Wi-Fi so that we can actually see that signal to be able to see where the operator is as well.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Senator Carson.

SENATE PRESIDENT CARSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Isn't it true that they have to register, drone operators have to register with the federal government, the FAA; but they also take down the serial numbers of these drones. They also keep a list. So if something like this was to happen, I would imagine a collision that the drone would have been harmed, and it would have fallen to the ground, you would have been able to get the serial number and that would have led you right to the operator.

LIEUTENANT STORM: We could, absolutely. There's several -- there is a registration process with the FAA. There's also something that's coming out which is called Unique ID, which is going to be -- that will be part of the system that's able to be able to see that. Um -- and then as far as the operator goes, if you're doing it for commerce or you're registered to do that through the FA, not everybody actually has to have a drone certificate.

There's a trust certificate that will register them; but to actually have an actual license or certificate that's for commerce or, like, we as the State Police or some of our public safety friends, they all have to have one. DOT has it if you're doing it for a municipality or government agency.

SENATE PRESIDENT CARSON: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Anything further from the Committee?
Representative Edwards.

REP. EDWARDS: Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chair. I -- I -- I know history is not a good guide for this because drone use is proliferating rapidly, but do you -- do you have sort of a frame of reference that you think about in terms of the potential use of this in the next year or two? Are we looking at ten events? Are we looking at three events or more?

LIEUTENANT STORM: So we're looking at many events. So all the SEAR events that come into New Hampshire, Information and Analysis Center are potential uses for this system, and there's some other events that if the municipality needs it or if there's something that pops up that is a now kind of scenario, like we don't know when the President's coming. We don't know if the Vice-President's coming. We don't know if other VIPs are coming within the State. So those type of pop-up events, absolutely.

SEAR events, let's talk about like the air show. Pease Air National Guard Base has a -- they potentially have a system there that they can use, but they can only dedicate that to the federal property, right, when you have an air show box that goes to five nautical miles. So we have to be able to help them and help our partners.

We've been relying on other entities to help us with this -- um -- over the past few years to do this. So, this is our way not to have to basically push off our need on others.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Anything further from Committee Members?
Any questions? I'd entertain a motion to either a --

** SEN. ROSENWALD: So move.

SEN. BIRDSELL: Second.

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CHAIRMAN WEYLER: To approve. Motion to approve by Senator Rosenwald, second by Senator Birdsell. Further discussion? Seeing none. All in favor say aye? Opposed no? Motion is adopted. Thank you.

LIEUTENANT STORM: Thank you.

*** {MOTION ADOPTED}

REGULAR CALENDAR

(6) RSA 228:12 Transfers From Highway Surplus Account:

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Moving on to Tab 6 on the Regular Calendar, 25-072, Department of Transportation. Any questions on this item? Representative Leishman has a question. Someone here from the Department?

PETER LEISHMAN, State Representative, Hillsborough County, District #33: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

DANIELLE CHANDONNET, Director of Finance, Division of Administration, Department of Transportation: Good morning. My name is Danielle Chandonnet. I am the Director of Finance at DOT.

ALAN HANSCOM, State Maintenance Engineer, Department of Transportation: And I'm Alan Hanscom. I'm a State Maintenance Engineer at DOT.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Representative Leishman is recognized for a question.

REP. LEISHMAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and thanks for being here today. So looking at Page 3, I noticed the amount of money that's already been requested for transfers is significantly higher than the last four years. Do you anticipate an impact on our road paving projects with the amount of money

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that you've had to seek transfers on? I've noticed the roads are getting quite a bit worse this year because of the harsh winter as well. I'm just curious.

MS. CHANDONNET: Our paving program is going on as -- as -- as normal. I've -- I've just seen several of the paving contracts going through. So I don't expect that that would be an impact.

REP. LEISHMAN: Okay. That's all I had. Thank you. Thanks, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Any further from the Committee Members? I will say I've seen improvement in the highway striping. Thank you.

MR. HANSCOM: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: I'll entertain a motion on item --

****** REP. LEISHMAN: Move the item.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: 25-072. Motion by Representative Leishman, second by Representative Edwards to approve item 25-072. Further discussion? Seeing none. All those in favor say aye? Opposed no? That item is adopted.

***** {MOTION ADOPTED}**

(7) RSA 604-A:1-b Additional Funding

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Moving on to Tab 7, Item 25-066, Judicial Council. Any Members of the Committee have any question?

SEN. BIRDSELL: {Inaudible}.

SEN. GRAY: Second.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Senator Birdsell moves to approve, Senator Gray seconds to approve Item 25-066. Is there any further discussion? Seeing none. All in favor say aye. Opposed no? That item is adopted.

***** {MOTION ADOPTED}**

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Moving on to Item 25-067, 067. Again, Judicial Council. How does the Committee wish to proceed?

{Inaudible}.

SEN. GRAY: Second.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Move to approve the item from Senator -- from Representative Leishman, seconded by Senator Gray. Further discussion? Seeing none. All in favor say aye? Opposed no? That item is adopted.

***** {MOTION ADOPTED}**

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Okay. That's all we have on that tab. Miscellaneous items --

REP. ERF: We'll come back.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: -- is --

REP. ERF: That's the one that Senator Gray moved to be last.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: That's right. That will be the last item. Is there further items? Mr. Kane.

(9) Informational Materials:

MICHAEL KANE, Legislative Budget Assistant, Office of Legislative Budget Assistant: Just Informational items if the Members have questions.

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CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Does any Member have any question about any Informational item? Senator Rosenwald.

SEN. ROSENWALD: Thank you. I have a question about the HHS Dashboard, and a question about the Fish and Game report.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Okay. That's 070.

SEN. ROSENWALD: Fish and Game seems to come first.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: It's what?

SEN. ROSENWALD: Fish and Game is first in the book. If anyone's here.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: On the Informational items.

SEN. ROSENWALD: Yep.

SEN. GRAY: She said Fish and Game is numerically first.

REP. ERF: In the order.

SEN. ROSENWALD: In order Fish and Game comes first.

REP. ERF: So call Fish and Game.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: All right.

REP. ERF: She wants to start.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: So which -- which item are we looking at then?

SEN. ROSENWALD: It is item --

REP. ERF: 069.

SEN. ROSENWALD: -- 069.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Okay.

SEN. ROSENWALD: If Fish and Game is here.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: All right. Fish and Game. Is anybody here from Fish and Game?

MR. KANE: Mr. Chairman, I believe I was supposed to remind them, and I did not. So I do apologize; but if you want to share any questions I can make sure --

SEN. ROSENWALD: Yes, that would be great. This is actually a question that Senator Watters asked me to ask. Um -- and the question was will the Hike Safe Card funds cover the -- the cost of search and rescue?

MR. KANE: So we can reach out to Fish and Game, get that answer and share it to all the Members. I think right now Hike Safe brings in about \$180,000 a year of about 390,000 average expenditures on search and rescue. So it's not the entire, but I can get a history of that for you.

SEN. ROSENWALD: That would be great.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Looks like they've used a lot of it for equipment, which I didn't think that was what it was intended for; but we'll get that answer. Is there further?

SEN. ROSENWALD: Yes. So I had a question on the HHS Dashboard.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: All right. And that is Item 70, 070?

REP. ERF: Yep.

SEN. ROSENWALD: Yes.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Okay.

SEN. ROSENWALD: On --

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: And I see we have Director White here --

SEN. ROSENWALD: Yeah.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: -- to answer your questions.

SEN. ROSENWALD: Thank you. Hi, Nathan.

NATHAN WHITE, Chief Financial Officer, Department of Health and Human Services: Good morning. Nathan White, Chief Financial Officer with the Department of Health and Human Services.

SEN. ROSENWALD: So on Table 9, which is the long-term care waiver, in column -- the nursing home beds budget column, we've been told it's not really the number of beds that we budget for, but it's the number of beds that are licensed. But I noticed that in the last two Fiscal Years there's been a slight increase in the number of licensed beds reported. And since we have a moratorium, I'm just looking for an explanation of why it's not 4100.

CHRIS SANTANIELLO, Associate Commissioner, Department of Health and Human Services: Good morning. Chris Santaniello, Associate Commissioner. Actually, that number is the number we do budget for. It's not the number of licensed beds.

SEN. ROSENWALD: Follow-up, please.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Follow-up.

SEN. ROSENWALD: We've been told in this Committee that it is not the number you budget for, but it is the number of licensed beds.

MS. SANTANIELLO: I will go back and confirm that, but that is not my understanding.

SEN. ROSENWALD: Okay. Well, it would be good to get clarity.

MS. SANTANIELLO: Yep, I will. I'll definitely -- I'll go back and check, and I'll let Mike know and he can send it out.

SEN. ROSENWALD: Thank you.

MS. SANTANIELLO: You're welcome.

SEN. ROSENWALD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Okay. Any further questions on the Informational items? Representative Edwards.

REP. EDWARDS: Thank you. My question is on Table 8, The Clients Served By the Community Mental Health Centers. There's been a -- a -- a -- steady decline in the usage of our Community Mental Health Centers. Do we -- do we have an understanding of what's driving that underlying trend, and do we expect that trend to -- you're looking like I -- I said something wrong.

MR. WHITE: No. We know that Katja Fox has been working with the Community Mental Health Centers on these specific numbers that are reported here.

REP. EDWARDS: Yeah.

MR. WHITE: And -- and I know that the -- that -- that the data specialist have been going back and forth. I don't believe that that has yet to be fully resolved.

Um -- Senator Rosenwald brought this up a couple months ago, and I know the teams have been working together; but I don't think that that has been fully resolved. But we can -- we can provide a written follow-up just to give you the latest

status on that, because that -- that is affecting those numbers there.

REP. EDWARDS: All right. That's the answer to my question. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: It shows a rather steady progression, especially a drop from 2020 to 2022.

REP. EDWARDS: I mean, I love the trend. I'd like to see it continue, and I was hoping you would tell me we're getting to be healthier mentally as a society but we're not today. Okay.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Further questions from Committee Members on Informational items?

REP. EDWARDS: Yeah, I saw that.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Seeing none. Senator Gray.

(8) Miscellaneous/Late Item:

****** SEN. GRAY: I move to go into non-public session to discuss ongoing legal matters and matters which if discussed in public would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person other than a member of the public body itself, unless that person requests an open meeting.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Motion and a second to go into non-public session. All in favor say aye? Opposed no? We will go into non-public session.

SEN. GRAY: I think we may need to do a roll call on that. Just to be safe it would be advisable to do it.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: I agree. Clerk will call the roll on a motion to go into non-public session.

REP. ERF: Mr. Kane, shall I just pick a random?

MR. KANE: Yes, I'd just pick a random.

REP. ERF: All right. You ready?

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Ready.

REP. ERF: Representative Edwards.

REP. EDWARDS: Yes.

REP. ERF: Clerk votes yes. Representative Leishman.

REP. LEISHMAN: Yes.

REP. ERF: Representative Wallner.

REP. WALLNER: Yes.

REP. ERF: Senator Gray.

SEN. GRAY: Yes.

REP. ERF: Senator Carson.

SENATE PRESIDENT CARSON: Yes.

REP. ERF: Senator Birdsell.

SEN. BIRDSELL: Yes.

REP. ERF: Senator Rosenwald.

SEN. ROSENWALD: Yes.

REP. ERF: Senator Reardon.

SEN. REARDON: Yes.

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REP. ERF: Representative Wal -- oh, Representative Weyler.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Yes.

REP. ERF: That's who's sitting next to me.

***** {MOTION ADOPTED}**

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: All right. I suggest we go across the hall into this first room, as I'm not sure if they'll get the TV things on and off proper time, and rather than disturbing everybody else that's here.

(The Committee left the Committee Rooms 210-211 at time frame 25:24 to go into non-public session.)

(The Committee returns to the Committee Room 210-211 at time frame 1:47:25.)

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Okay. See if we got everybody.

SEN. GRAY: Darin Jett (Phonetic Spelling) coming? He was speaking with --

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Okay. Where did Mr. Kane go?

SENATE PRESIDENT CARSON: {Inaudible}.

SEN. GRAY: We'll make it.

SENATE PRESIDENT CARSON: {Inaudible}.

SEN. GRAY: We'll make it. We'll make it. I don't think I {Inaudible}.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: All right. Anybody see -- anybody see Mike Kane? There he is. There he is. Okay. Fiscal Committee is coming back from close session, and Senator Gray is recognized.

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** SEN. GRAY: I move to come out of non-public session.

{Inaudible}.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: All in favor? Any opposed? All right. We're back from non-public session.

SEN. GRAY: And just so that everybody knows, the minutes should reflect that we've reviewed the process, and the funds provided and available to the process. We reviewed the awards provided and those awards anticipated. We had an explanation of the structure of the awards, including how the attorney fees and any loans that the individuals had would be affected by the actions, and those should be reflected in the minutes -- uh -- and there's no reason to seal the minutes.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Thank you. I'll entertain a motion on the -- on the item.

SEN. GRAY: Thought you were going to make it.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Have my clerk make it.

SEN. GRAY: Okay.

** GERALD GRIFFIN, State Representative, Hillsborough County, District #42: Pursuant to RSA 21-M:11-a, little a -- uh -- VII (a) and (c), requests the authorization to receive an additional appropriation from the General Funds, not otherwise appropriated, in the amount of \$5 million for Fiscal 2025 through June 30th, 2025.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Clerk will call the roll on the vote with a motion.

REP. GRIFFIN: Need a second.

SEN. GRAY: Senator Rosenwald second that, please.

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CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Senator Rosenwald second.

REP. WALLNER: Is there discussion?

REP. EDWARDS: Is there discussion?

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Senator Gray seconds.

SEN. GRAY: I thought you did. Sorry.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Call the roll on the motion for the five million.

REP. WALLNER: Is there any discussion on the motion?

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Further discussion.

REP. WALLNER: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Representative Wallner.

REP. WALLNER: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Um -- I'm going to vote against this motion. I believe that Mr. Broderick has laid out why he needs the \$15 million to get through the end of the year. Um -- and I don't think that giving him \$5 million chunks over the next two or three months is really an efficient way for us to go forward. It's going to take a lot of time for him to prepare Fiscal requests every -- every month from now to the end of the year. I think he's provided us with enough information that makes me feel that the \$15 million is needed, and I -- so I will be voting on the -- I will vote against the five because I would vote for 15. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Further discussion? Senator Rosenwald.

SEN. ROSENWALD: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I will also be voting against this motion. We know that the average claim paid out is about \$500,000, and there are 80 pending claims. That stacks up to 40 million, 41 million. If there's 22 million in the fund

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now, and you add \$15 million to it, that's basically that amount. I think that's what's needed. And -- um -- thank you.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Representative Edwards.

REP. EDWARDS: Uh -- thank you, Mr. Chair. I -- I -- um -- I'm -- I -- I will vote for this. I'm -- I'm a little reluctant to do it because the comments of Representative Wallner ring very true to me. And it -- it's -- we -- I think we're also in a situation where there are a lot of parties that are watching our actions today. And I think another vote on a different amount would -- would be more confidence inspiring and maintain the integrity and continuity of this fund, which is vitally important. So -- so -- um -- so I -- I will vote for it. I -- I wish -- I wish it were more, though.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Further discussion? Representative Leishman.

REP. LEISHMAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess I would echo Representative Edward's comments. I'd like to see us do 15 million as the request was originally provided, but I think there's been some issues brought forward that may require legislative change. I think requiring, perhaps, some -- the Administrator to appear before Fiscal at least once a month with a report is a very important request. So I will be voting for the five with some resistance, but I think we need to get some legislative changes introduced as well.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Understood. Further discussion? President Carson.

SENATE PRESIDENT CARSON: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I also will be voting for the 5 million with the understanding that the Administrator will come back to Fiscal next month and the month after next. We've got until June 30th when we will have a budget. And we just need to take, you know, just take some -- take some smaller steps for right now, because we are in the budget process. But I want folks to know to have confidence

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in this fund, that we are going to fund it. And we're just taking a little step back while we go through the budgeting process.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Thank you.

SENATE PRESIDENT CARSON: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Anyone else? Seeing none, the Clerk will call the roll on the motion for 5 million.

REP. GRIFFIN: I'm calling the roll in alphabetical order. Representative Edwards.

REP. EDWARDS: Yes.

REP. GRIFFIN: Representative Leishman.

REP. LEISHMAN: Yes.

REP. GRIFFIN: Representative Wallner.

REP. WALLNER: No.

REP. GRIFFIN: The Clerk votes yes. Senator Gray.

SEN. GRAY: Yes.

REP. GRIFFIN: Senator Carson.

SENATE PRESIDENT CARSON: Yes.

REP. GRIFFIN: Senator Birdsell.

SEN. BIRDSELL: Yes.

REP. GRIFFIN: Senator Rosenwald.

SEN. ROSENWALD: No.

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REP. GRIFFIN: And Representative Weyler. Oh, sorry Senator -- Senator Reardon.

SEN. REARDON: {Inaudible.}.

REP. GRIFFIN: And Chair Weyler.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Yes.

REP. GRIFFIN: The vote is one, two, three, four, five, six, seven -- seven to three.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: And the motion is adopted.

***** {MOTION ADOPTED}**

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: All right. Is there any further action to come before us? Mr. Kane.

MR. KANE: Sure. Date of the next meeting. The third Friday in April is April 18th.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: All right. Discussing the next meeting. I know you'll be busier in the Senate than we might be. April 18th is the third Friday.

SENATE PRESIDENT CARSON: Well, it's Good Friday.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Ah. We are getting close --

SEN. GRAY: Good with my schedule.

SENATE PRESIDENT CARSON: What, the 18th?

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Eighteenth.

SEN. BIRDSELL: What time?

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SENATE PRESIDENT CARSON: Can we do 11 again?

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Yes.

SENATE PRESIDENT CARSON: Okay. Is that okay with you, Jim?

SEN. GRAY: Yeah.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Any objection to 11 o'clock again? Likely on our side we'll do pre-Fiscal probably at ten, unless it's a big schedule, and then it may be the day before. But 11 o'clock Fiscal on Friday the 18th, Good Friday. Fiscal. All right. Is that -- is there any objection to that from any of the Members? Seeing none, that will be the date.

MR. KANE: Yes.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: That will be the time. Thank you all for your input.

SENATE PRESIDENT CARSON: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN WEYLER: Anything further to come before us? All right. We are adjourned.

(The meeting adjourned.)

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Cecelia A. Trask, a Licensed Court Reporter, in the State of New Hampshire, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a correct transcription from the official audio recording of the proceeding in the above-entitled matter to the best of my professional skill and ability.

Cecelia A. Trask, RMR, RPR
NH Licensed Court Reporter - #00047

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