

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
October 30, 2002
1:00 p.m.
Room 334, Legislative Council Chamber
REVISED AGENDA

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	ROLL CALL	
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ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REMARKS

The next Legislative Council meeting is scheduled for November 20, 2002 at 1:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

REP. MICHAEL V. SAXL
CHAIR

SEN. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD
VICE-CHAIR



120th MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

SEN. BEVERLY C. DAGGETT
SEN. MARY E. SMALL
SEN. PAUL T. DAVIS, SR.
SEN. SHARON ANGLIN TREAT
REP. PATRICK COLWELL
REP. JOSEPH BRUNO
REP. WILLIAM S. NORBERT
REP. WILLIAM J. SCHNEIDER

DAVID E. BOULTER
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

MEETING SUMMARY
September 24, 2002

CALL TO ORDER

The Chair, Speaker Michael V. Saxl, called the Legislative Council meeting to order at 1:16 p.m. in the Legislative Council Chamber.

ROLL CALL

Senators:	Sen. Michaud, Sen. Daggett, Sen. Small, Sen. Davis, Sen. Treat
Representatives:	Speaker Saxl, Rep. Colwell, Rep. Bruno, Rep. Norbert, Absent: Rep. Schneider
Legislative Officers:	Pamela Cahill, Secretary of the Senate David Boulter, Executive Director, Legislative Council Grant Pennoyer, Director, Office of Fiscal and Program Review David Elliott, Director, Office of Policy and Legal Analysis Margaret Matheson, Revisor of Statutes Lynn Randall, State Law Librarian Paul Mayotte, Director, Legislative Information Services

SUMMARY OF THE AUGUST 21, 2002 COUNCIL MEETING

Motion: That the Meeting Summary of August 21, 2002 be accepted and placed on file. (Motion by Sen. Michaud, second by Rep. Norbert, unanimous).

REPORTS FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND STAFF OFFICE DIRECTORS

- **Executive Director's Report**

Renovations Update

David Boulter, Executive Director of the Legislative Council, reported that the south entrance to the State House will reopen during the week of September 30th. Completion of the renovation of the east entrance is somewhat behind schedule and is now scheduled for early November.

As part of the authorized exterior work to the State House, Granter Northern is undertaking repairs to the north and south roof, to eliminate water leaks and some health and safety issues.

Mr. Boulter will be providing a status report on the diorama reinstallation to the Space Committee. He has received an update from the Maine State Museum summarizing its progress on the restoration of the diorama areas and private source funding requests. The Museum reported that it has not been successful in obtaining supplemental funding.

Visitors to the State House

Mr. Boulter informed Council members that a group of adults from St. George deBoise, Quebec will be in Maine for an English language immersion course on October 12 – 14, 2002. The group organizing the event is traveling through the State and visiting interesting places to stimulate dialogue. The State House is one of the notable areas to visit.

Resolution of Internet Domain Issue

Mr. Boulter reported that the meeting with Commissioner Waldron, Mr. Mayotte and BIS staff in the Executive Branch regarding use of a "Legislature.Maine.gov" domain name was very successful and thanked Council members for their support. Mr. Mayotte will report further on the progress and implementation in his report. In summary, the Chief Information Officer withdrew his objections to the Legislature's use of the domain name.

No Council action required.

Following completion of the Executive Director's report, Sen. Treat and Rep. Colwell mentioned that it had been brought to their attention that the men's bathroom on the first floor may not be fully handicapped accessible. They requested that the Executive Director's Office look into the matter along with the status of other handicapped accessible facilities and report back to the Council. Mr. Boulter mentioned that the architect for the State House renovations was responsible for assuring ADA compliance and that he would look into the matter.

- **Fiscal Report**

Grant Pennoyer, Director, Office of Fiscal and Program Review, presented the following fiscal report:

1. Revenue Variances for August 2002

General Fund revenue was below projections by \$11.1 million for the month of August and was down \$4.6 million for the first 2 months of FY03.

The Highway Fund was down almost \$0.4 million in August, but overall was above projections by \$1.5 million for the first 2 months.

These variances figures are based on the old forecast.

2. August 2002 Revenue Forecast

For FY03 the General Fund revenue forecast was reduced by \$148.2 million. For the 2004-2005 biennium, the General Fund revenue forecast was reduced by more than \$370 million.

Revenue projections for the Highway Fund were increased by nearly \$4 million in FY03.

The Fund for a Healthy Maine revenue forecast was reduced by \$66,000 reduction as a result of lower interest earnings assumptions.

The August 2002 Revenue Changes

Mr. Pennoyer reported that his office had just received a revised forecast of distribution but did not have time to update the variance reports in the information included in Council members' packet. He said that based on the revised forecast the General Fund revenue would have been down \$6.8 million for the first 2 months of the fiscal year; Individual Income Tax and Sales Tax collections would have had negative variances of \$5.1 million and \$1.4 million, respectively. A very preliminary look at September collections, which appear to be running ahead of budget, would indicate that some of the negative variance from the new forecast is a timing issue.

The Highway Fund was only slightly negative in August.

3. Cash pool status.

Mr. Pennoyer said the cash pool daily average balances for the month of July 2002 were: The General Fund was negative by \$141.2 million and was \$185.6 million negative (when the 2 major reserves are excluded.) Those 2 major reserves, the Maine Rainy Day Fund and the Reserve for Working Capital will be reduced to \$0.5 million by the end of FY03, if the Legislature adopts the Governor's budget proposal to use \$10 million of the working capital reserve. The Maine Rainy Day Fund is already budgeted to have a \$0 balance at the end of FY03.

Mr. Pennoyer pointed out that the July Cash Pool presentation does not reflect the \$250 million Tax Anticipation Note (TAN) issuance in August. The Highway Fund had been generally improving up until the last 3 months. He did not expect the Highway Fund cash position to be significantly changed. There is proposal in the Governor's budget to take \$9.6 million from the Highway Fund to help balance the General Fund.

4. Office of Fiscal and Program Review's Fiscal Note Performance

Mr. Pennoyer reported that during the 120th Legislature, OFPR produced over 3,500 fiscal note documents. For fiscal note documents required by Joint Rule 312, 78.5% were completed within one week and over 90% were completed within a two-week period. Mr. Pennoyer said OFPR's performance during the 2nd Regular Session improved, where 86.6% were completed within the one-week and almost 95% completed within 2 weeks.

Mr. Pennoyer explained why OFPR did not perform as well with respect to producing fiscal memos that are distributed prior to a public hearing on a bill. The response time has been increasing for the last 2 Legislatures, both in terms of the number "on-time" and the number not completed. Several factors have contributed to this increased response time including:

- the large number of bills that are introduced in the Legislature;
- the increase in workload related to budget issues and committee staffing; and
- during the 119th and the 120th Legislatures, OFPR had new fiscal note coordinators at the start of each of these Legislatures.

He also noted that when establishing priorities in the busiest time of the session, fiscal note memos receive a lower priority because they are not required by joint rule and often bills will get reported out either ONTP or amended in such a way as to change the fiscal impact. OFPR analysts try to keep in close contact with committee staff to make sure that fiscal information is provided as needed.

5. Budget Bill Production Issues:

Mr. Pennoyer gave an update on budget bill production issues. He believed the Governor's proposed budget bill to address the FY03 budget shortfall would be released later in the day and be available to the public on September 25th. Advertising for public hearings that are planned to begin on October 7th are awaiting final approval for submission to the papers for this weekend's advertising deadline. OFPR is planning to post its summary of the Governor's budget proposal on OFPR's web site by Thursday.

Mr. Pennoyer commented that the submission of the proposed budget that includes the performance budgeting measures raises some policy issues. Staff will be seeking some guidance from the Legislative Council on the format for budget bills and appropriation and allocation sections for other bills as they prepare for the 121st Legislature. The 120th Legislature had earlier decided not to include Performance Budgeting information in the printed budget bills for logistics reasons. Under Maine's Performance Budgeting Process, the budget remains based on traditional program and line category appropriations and not performance measures, goals and objectives.

At a future Legislative Council meeting, Mr. Pennoyer plans to seek guidance on budget bill format, fiscal note production and staffing resource issues.

No Council Action required.

- **Office of Information Services' Report**

Paul Mayotte, Director, Legislative Information Services reported to the Council on the following items.

Bill Drafting System

HP and his office have completed rounds of "user" testing as it relates to the scope of work in Contract Amendment 4 with HP/Compaq.

As of September 18, 2002 there are 9 unresolved items that remain on the list. HP remains on track at this time to complete the scope of work on Amendment #4. Of the 9 items remaining, 3 are major. At present there is no contention over the items.

At the previous Council meeting Mr. Mayotte had reported his concerns about the current performance speed of the bill drafting system. HP has identified what it views as the major problem. It provided a software fix for the problem and subsequent testing resulted in improved performance, however not to the level HP was expecting. It is continuing to review and make additional fixes to the application.

Mr. Mayotte believes HP will meet the Contract Amendment 4 scope of work, but does not believe they will have solved the application performance issue by October 11th. Rep. Norbert asked if performance was part of having an acceptable system and Mr. Mayotte said it is identified specifically as an acceptance item.

Internet Access

Mr. Mayotte has received approval to use the new address, legislature.maine.gov from the Commissioner of the Department of Administrative and Financial Services and the State's Chief Information Office.

The technical process of exchanging global address lists for email was successfully tested and is being finalized. Several security steps remain to be finalized on the link between the Legislature and the Executive Branch and those will be done over the next several days.

The Work Plan for the final remaining steps to implement the process includes:

- activating "Legislature,Maine.Gov" on the Internet by October 18, 2002 and issuing new staff e-mail addresses;
- by October 31, 2002, remove the Legislature from the direct BIS network link; and
- by December, 2002 issuing new legislator e-mail addresses.

Speaker Saxl asked if the direct internet access system will allow legislators or staff to access the network using remote access. Mr. Mayotte said his office had no immediate plans to provide remote access, but the system is capable of providing remote access. The Speaker encouraged the implementation of remote access to the Legislative computer system.

No Council action required.

Update on Interim Legislative Studies

David Elliott, Director, Office of Policy and Legal Analysis, gave an update on the status of interim studies. Of the 18 legislative studies, 16 are underway and 2 have not yet started. Many of the studies have final report dates of early November.

Attached to the Meeting Summary is the Progress Report on Legislative Studies as of September 23, 2002 that was provided by Mr. Elliott.

No Council action is required.

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL COMMITTEES

• Personnel Committee

Speaker Saxl reported that the Personnel Committee had met earlier in the day and had taken up the following matters:

1. Performance evaluations of Margaret Matheson, Revisor of Statutes and Grant Pennoyer, Director, Office of Fiscal and Program Review.

The Personnel Committee voted unanimously to award Mr. Pennoyer a one step increase. Ms. Matheson is at the top of the salary scale and, therefore, was not eligible for a step increase.

2. Proposed Revisions to Personnel Policies for Leadership Staff

The Personnel Committee members received the draft revised Personnel Policies for Leadership Staff. The Committee did not take formal action on the policies at that time, but are available for review.

3. Union Organization Efforts by Legislative Employees

Speaker Saxl said the Committee discussed the status unionization of legislative employees. Speaker Saxl reported that, after discussion, a majority of the Personnel Committee had voted to present the following motion regarding MSEA bargaining unit composition to the Legislative Council. Sen. Daggett made the following motion:

Motion: That the Legislative Council's Personnel Committee, or its designee, convey to the Maine State Employees Association that, for purposes of bargaining unit composition, the Legislative Council does not object to the inclusion of legislative analysts and committee clerks into the bargaining unit now proposed by MSEA for legislative employees; further, that the Legislative Council accepts MSEA's revised proposal to exclude the administrative employees in the Executive Director's Office and the Administrative Secretary in the Office of Fiscal and Program Review. (Motion by Sen. Daggett, second by Sen. Treat).

Discussion: Sen. Small reminded the Legislative Council members that the effect of the motion would be to include all nonpartisan employees and committee clerks (excluding management positions and certain confidential positions) into a single MSEA bargaining unit – a Legislative Council determination that they all share a “community of interest”. She believes the work of legislative analysts and committee clerks is vastly different such that staff in the proposed bargaining unit do not share a community of interest and, therefore, should not be in the same bargaining unit. Sen. Small said that she accepts that legislative employees will likely be unionized, but she disagrees with the process being used by the Legislative Council. She believes a grave injustice has been done by the Legislative Council to legislative employees who will be subject to collective bargaining whether or not they choose to join MSEA. She reminded Council members that when employees first signed union cards, it was with the understanding that there would be 3 bargaining units; now only 1 is being established (and about to be agreed to by the Council) and card-signers will not be given the opportunity to reconsider their decision. She also reminded the members that the Council had been told that card signers will be polled as to their current position of unionization before the decision was finalized, which was false. There is no process whereby employees would be contacted; employees must take steps directly to withdraw a signed card. Sen. Small objected to representations made to the Legislative Council that the information on the process to be used was true, when in fact it was otherwise.

Sen. Small also expressed her concerns about the nature of nonpartisan work in a political union environment, particularly the work of legislative analysts who deal with legislation and with legislators on the construction of legislation and formation of policy. She believes that placing nonpartisan staff in a union will cause irreversible difficulties in relationships and will change the nature of the legislature. She believes there are concerns that could be worked out, but did not think it was appropriate to move ahead at this time. The process authorized by the Legislative Council should be made to benefit all the individual employees, not the union.

Sen. Daggett responded by saying that she did not believe it inappropriate to move forward at this time and the proposed action was appropriate and within the law passed.

The members then voted on the motion, (approved 6-3-0-1, Sen. Davis, Sen. Small and Rep. Bruno opposed, Rep. Schneider absent).

- **Technology and Migration Committee**

The Technology and Migration Committee did not meet this month.

- **Subcommittee to Consider Additional Security Measures**

The Meeting Summary of the August 28, 2002 Subcommittee meeting is attached.

- **Space Committee**

The Meeting Summary of the August 28, 2002 Space Committee meeting is attached.

OLD BUSINESS

Item #1: Percent for Art Committee

Motion: Move that the recommendations of the Percent for Art Committee item be removed from the table. (Motion by Sen. Small, second by Rep. Bruno, failed 3-6, Sen. Treat, Sen. Daggett, Sen. Michaud, Speaker Saxl, Rep. Colwell and Rep. Norbert opposed).

Discussion: Sen. Small expressed her desire that the Legislative Council act on the earlier recommendations of the Percent for Art Committee. She felt it was a disservice to the artists who had made proposals for the Legislative Council not to decide the matter, even though she was not particularly supportive of the recommended artwork.

Speaker Saxl responded by indicating his view that the Council should postpone a discussion on the recommendations until the current budget situation has been resolved. Sen. Small noted that the Council has a legal responsibility to approve or disapprove the art selections, and a decision would decide whether the money set aside for the Percent for Art selections would be committed or whether alternatives would be considered.

There was some brief discussion by other members of the Council on reviewing the budget proposals before spending Percent for Art money.

No further Council action was taken on this item.

NEW BUSINESS

Item #1: Legislative Budget for the 2004-2005 Biennium

Executive Director Boulter presented the proposed current services budget for the Legislature for the 2004-2005 biennium. Under current law, the Executive Director's office is authorized to submit to the State Budget Officer a proposed current services budget on behalf of the Legislative Council, subject to review by the next Council. Mr. Boulter noted that the current services budget represents the budget required to continue legislative operations at their current level. All agencies of state government are required to prepare and submit a current services budget to the State Budget Officer.

Mr. Boulter summarized the major areas of change from the FY 02/03 budget; Personal Services increased about 18%, largely due to cost factors beyond the Legislature's immediate control, including increased costs for employee and legislator health insurance, retirement fund increases, a 27th payroll in the fiscal year and the cost of previously authorized general salary increases for employees. The All Other portion of the budget, which constitutes a greater degree of discretionary spending and more fully within the immediate control of the Legislature, includes only a modest increase – 1.9%. Capital expenditures show a 27% increase, although the actual dollar increase was very small compared to the overall legislative budget. In developing the current services budget, Rose Breton and Mr. Boulter consulted with the heads of legislative offices.

Mr. Boulter also noted that the Reserve Fund for the State House Preservation increased by 1.5% (\$800,000 per year as authorized by law) and the Law and Legislative Reference Library's budget increased 16% in Personal Services and 9.5% in All Other. The largest percent increase in the accounts controlled by the Legislature was due to the legislative creation of a new program and office, the Office of Program Evaluation and Governmental Accountability (OPEGA), to cost over \$1 million annually.

Motion: That the Executive Director is authorized to submit the current services request for the FY 04/05 Legislative Budget to the State Budget Officer no later than October 1, 2002, and is further directed to gather and analyze any new or expanded requests so that the Legislative Council may review these requests at a later date. (Motion by Speaker Saxl, second by Rep. Colwell).

Discussion: Rep. Bruno said he could not support a budget increase without further review. Speaker Saxl clarified that the motion is not to support the budget, but to submit the current services budget as a base budget to the State Budget Office. He noted that following the submission the Legislative Council would then review the budget, at which time the Council could make budget reductions and forward them to the Appropriations Committee. He further noted that the motion is merely to transmit the budget to the State Budget Office and not a substantive motion recommending approval or disapproval of the budget request. It was then suggested that Speaker Saxl rephrase his motion to clarify the effect of the motion.

Speaker Saxl then withdrew his motion and Rep. Colwell withdrew his second to the motion.

Sen. Treat then made a new motion.

Motion: To transmit the base budget for the purposes of the Executive Branch putting together their initial budget documents with the understanding that this Legislative Council and the next will be putting together a process to review that and most likely cut what has been proposed in some way. (Motion by Sen. Treat, second by Rep. Colwell, failed 5-4, Sen. Small, Sen. Davis, Sen. Michaud, Rep. Bruno opposed).

Following failure of the second motion, Executive Director Boulter asked for guidance from the Legislative Council as to how he should proceed with respect to the required current services budget submission.

Speaker Saxl said that if the Legislative Council wanted to combine budget reductions with the current services budget, it might start by eliminating funding for OPEGA since it is a new program, capping the All Other increase for the library (particularly periodical subscriptions) to 3% and treating all further increases as Part II budget requests. Rep. Bruno suggested that rather than submitting a current services budget with the increases, the Legislative Council should flat fund the legislative accounts. A future Legislative Council can then modify that budget proposal if it chose to do so.

Mr. Boulter reminded the Council members that the required submission is the same for the Legislature as for Executive Branch agencies: i.e., the budget required to operate the Branch, agency or department at the current level of services. While the budget can be modified as part of the budget process, the submission does not merely represent a placeholder. He indicated that the Council is welcome to make modifications to the current services budget request, but emphasized the Executive Director's office was careful to follow the budget guidance used by other state agencies in developing the budget.

Speaker Saxl asked Rose Breton to summarize the major areas of increase in the current services budget. Ms. Breton described the increases and answered various questions from members regarding the specific areas of increase.

- 30% attributable to general salary increases approved by the Legislative Council for staff.

(3% in July, 2001, 2% in July, 2002 and 2% to be effective on January 1, 2003, all cumulative for FY 04/05).

- 25% attributable to an employer contribution increase to the Maine State Retirement System.

The new rates obtained from the Budget Office are 21.227 for FY 03, 26.5% for FY 04 and 29.2% in FY 05.

- 27% attributable to employer-paid increases to health insurance for employees.

The Budget Office projects an 18% rate increase in FY 04 and another 16% increase in FY 05.

- 7% attributable to budgeting for a 27th payroll in FY 04 (employees are paid biweekly and every 7 or 8 years a 27th payroll falls within 1 fiscal year). The value of the additional payroll cost is approximately \$400,000.

Ms. Breton noted that the budget reflects a decrease of 3 legislative positions that were no longer authorized (they were established as part of the Senate's power-sharing agreement for the 120th Legislature). In response to a question about required employee furlough or shutdown days, Ms. Breton commented that the FY 03 budget has already been reduced by \$105,000, the savings resulting from 3 furlough days. The employee salary reduction as a result totals about 1.15%, off-setting in large measure the 2% general salary increase due to take effect in January, 2003.

- Several thousand percent increase attributable to fully funding and establishing OPEGA.

In response to a question about funding re-apportionment costs, Ms. Breton indicated that the Legislature appropriated \$400,000 in FY 03 only for reapportionment.

The members then proceeded to discuss the advisability of forming a budget subcommittee to review the budget and make recommendation for revisions to this or the next Legislative Council.

Speaker Saxl then made a new motion, as follows:

Motion: That the Executive Director is authorized to submit the current services request for the FY 04/05 legislative budget to the State Budget Officer no later than October 1, 2002, and further that the Legislative Council establish a budget subcommittee to begin a process of reviewing the budget request and identifying potential savings for the next legislature. (Motion by Speaker Saxl, second by Rep. Norbert).

Discussion: Sen. Michaud emphasized that his initial testimony about submitting the current services budget to the Budget Office without a subcommittee review first arises from his service on the Appropriations Committee where he saw Executive Branch agencies submit a current services budget that contained Part II items (new or expanded programs) that should not have been included as Part I items. He emphasized that he is

willing to make cuts to offset some of the budget increases. Rep. Bruno noted that he had been a member of the earlier ad hoc budget subcommittee and had not supported the recommendations of the committee at that time.

Motion approved, 6-2 (Sen. Davis, Rep. Bruno opposed, Sen. Small was absent for the vote.)

Item #2: Legislative Document Service: Fee Schedule for 121st Legislature

The Legislative Council considered the proposed new fee schedule for legislative documents that had been prepared and submitted by Clerk of the House Millicent MacFarland. Clerk MacFarland was not present to speak to her request. The new fee schedule reflects some fee increases to offset the increase in postage costs. The current and proposed fee schedules were included in the Council packet.

Motion: That the legislative document fee schedule for the 121st Legislature proposed by the Clerk of the House be approved. (Motion by Rep. Colwell, second by Sen. Daggett, unanimous).

Item #3: Briefing by Rich Jones, NCSL, on NCSL Study of Legislative Term Limits

Mr. Rich Jones from the National Conference of State Legislatures traveled from Denver, Colorado to brief the Legislative Council on a legislative term limits study being conducted by NCSL. He informed Legislative Council members that Maine, having term limits, was 1 of several states nationally being studied. The presiding officers had earlier agreed to the inclusion of Maine in the study. The study involves NCSL, CSG, State Legislative Leaders Foundation and leading academics around the country as well as state leaders in the states being studied. It is on the effects of term limits on the various legislatures, to study how they are affecting the legislative process and what legislatures are doing to adjust the procedures. It is not intended to make judgments whether term limits has been positive or negative for states.

The study will collect demographic information on all state legislatures nationwide to compare the backgrounds of legislators in term-limited and non-term limited states and the approach to their jobs. Maine will participate in in-depth case studies with five other states: Arkansas, Arizona, California, Colorado and Ohio. A member of the national organization and an academic will participate in gathering information and in interviewing legislators, legislative staff, and observing the process.

NCSL anticipates it will produce a report and their findings by December, 2002.

Item #4: Approval of Work Plan and Budget for Legislative Studies

The following study committees and commissions submitted proposed work plans and budgets to the Legislative Council for approval as required by their enabling legislation.

- Blue Ribbon Commission on Financing Long-term Care
- Commission on Fatherhood Issues
- Task Force to Study the Impact of a Maine-based Casino
- Task Force on Rail Transportation
- Committee to Continue to Study the Costs and Benefits of Increasing Access to Paid Family and Medical Leave for Maine Families
- Committee to Study Reimbursement Rates for Maine Bottle Redemption Business
- Health Care System and Health Security Board

David Elliott, Director, Office of Policy and Legal Analysis, explained that the plans have been developed by members of the study in conjunction with their staff, and are within the budgets and reporting deadlines established for the studies.

He noted that the Health Care System and Health Security Board is a 2-year study, beginning last year and carried over into this year. That Board is not required by legislation to submit a budget for Council approval, but submitted it for the Council's information.

Discussion: A member asked if study committees reimburse members who are not legislators for their expenses in attending study committee meetings. Mr. Elliott responded by saying that the drafting guidelines for studies that had been approved by the Council required that only members of study committees who are not otherwise compensated by their employers or others whom they represent are entitled to reimbursement of necessary expenses. No per diem is paid to those members. This practice was designed to create equity in compensation of members among various study committees and to financially assist members who lose wages by taking time to participate in studies, where there is a demonstration of need.

Motion: That the proposed work plans and budgets for the 6 studies be approved. (Motion by Sen. Treat, second by Rep. Colwell, approved 8-1, Rep. Bruno opposed).

The Legislative Council took no action on the Health Security Board's memo.

Item #5: Request from Study Commission to Hold Additional Meeting

- Task Force on Rail Transportation (Memo from Sen. John L. Martin and Rep. Charles D. Fisher, Chairs)

David Elliott said the Task Force on Rail Transportation were authorized 4 meetings, have met 3 times, with a 4th meeting scheduled and believes it will require another meeting. The Task Force's budget can accommodate the additional meeting. The Task Force requested authorization to hold a 5th meeting.

Motion: That the request by the Task Force on Rail Transportation to hold an additional (5th) meeting is approved. (Motion by Sen. Daggett, second by Rep. Colwell, approved unanimous).

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REMARKS

The next Legislative Council meeting is scheduled for October 30, 2002 at 1:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

The Legislative Council meeting was adjourned at 2:59 p.m. (Motion by Rep. Norbert, second by Sen. Treat, unanimous).

Fiscal Briefing for the Legislative Council

Legislative Council Meeting
October 30, 2002

*Prepared by the
Office of Fiscal & Program Review*

**1. General Fund and Highway Fund Revenue Variances for September 2002
(Reflects August 2002 Revenue Forecasting Committee Revisions)
(See Attached Summary of September Revenue)**

- General Fund – Up by \$10.6M in September/Up FY-T-D by \$4.0M
- Highway Fund – Up by \$1.7M in September/Up FY-T-D by \$2.9M

2. Economic Forecast Revisions

- Consensus Economic Forecasting Committee met October 21st and revised the economic forecast downward for calendar years 2002, 2003 and 2004 and extended the economic projections through calendar year 2007
- Attached are the changes to the aggregate forecast
- This amount is preliminary and may be revised as the CEFC completes its forecast of the components of Personal Income
- This change in forecast when run through the econometric tax models will drive the forecast of Individual Income Tax and Sales Tax lower including FY03 estimates

3. Revenue Forecasting Committee Schedule

- Reporting deadline in statute is December 1st
- Met Tuesday, October 22nd for a planning session
- Next meeting not yet scheduled

4. Cash Pool Status

- August 2002 Cash Pool Summary attached – General Fund \$49.8M positive which reflects the TAN issue in August; absent the TAN balance and the other reserve fund balances the General Fund was \$204.3M negative
- General Fund – Historical graph shows worsening trend and impact of August TAN
- Highway Fund – Historical graph shows generally improving trend until last 3 months

General Fund and Highway Fund Revenue

Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2003

Based on 120th Legislature 2nd Regular Session Changes and August 2002 Revenue Reprojections

FUND Revenue Line	Sept. '02 Budget	Sept. '02 Actual	Sept. '02 Var.	FY03 Budget YTD	FY03 Actual YTD	FY03 Variance YTD	FY03 Budgeted Totals
GF Sales and Use Tax	84,927,891	85,080,291.24	152,400.24	168,984,375	167,699,645.16	(1,284,729.84)	875,184,846
GF Individual Income Tax	95,869,690	108,179,556.50	12,309,866.50	204,378,265	212,565,564.87	8,187,299.87	1,104,663,826
GF Corporate Income Tax	13,198,608	15,092,880.50	1,894,272.50	18,018,310	20,572,642.81	2,554,332.81	80,489,997
GF Cigarette and Tobacco Tax	8,141,888	6,921,127.68	(1,220,760.32)	27,764,079	25,613,783.43	(2,150,295.57)	105,684,505
GF Public Utilities Tax	0	(1,117,076.92)	(1,117,076.92)	(150,000)	(1,267,078.10)	(1,117,078.10)	30,400,000
GF Insurance Companies Tax	0	284,798.10	284,798.10	1,844,090	2,600,879.83	756,789.83	56,646,354
GF Estate Tax	2,188,929	3,700,895.41	1,511,966.41	2,188,929	2,472,046.69	283,117.69	24,017,568
GF Property Tax - Unorganized Territory	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	9,669,807
GF Income from Investments	222,676	397,210.06	174,534.06	452,955	360,260.97	(92,694.03)	2,291,000
GF Transfer to Municipal Revenue Sharing	(9,893,807)	(10,625,989.14)	(732,182.14)	(19,960,430)	(20,442,730.49)	(482,300.49)	(105,519,016)
GF Transfer from Liquor Commission	2,222,165	1,883,078.73	(339,086.27)	7,226,054	7,176,476.11	(49,577.89)	26,290,223
GF Transfer from Lottery Commission	2,946,791	1,981,931.18	(964,859.82)	9,371,162	9,378,113.16	6,951.16	39,335,176
GF Other Revenue	12,225,331	10,873,117.56	(1,352,213.44)	35,261,337	32,672,633.98	(2,588,703.02)	152,458,488
GF Totals	212,050,162	222,651,820.90	10,601,658.90	455,379,126	459,402,238.42	4,023,112.42	2,401,612,774
HF Fuel Taxes	18,327,248	19,077,028.53	749,780.53	32,613,448	33,430,140.56	816,692.56	187,500,000
HF Motor Vehicle Registration and Fees	5,622,578	6,366,378.63	743,800.63	18,442,258	19,814,291.70	1,372,033.70	81,690,336
HF Inspection Fees	307,785	346,392.30	38,607.30	689,934	1,099,583.49	409,649.49	3,683,907
HF Fines	195,980	197,736.20	1,756.20	599,223	658,676.86	59,453.86	2,865,645
HF Income from Investments	140,000	140,430.76	430.76	339,640	340,070.41	430.41	1,591,000
HF Other Revenue	512,367	716,585.89	204,218.89	1,545,222	1,803,160.03	257,938.03	6,781,644
HF Totals	25,105,958	26,844,552.31	1,738,594.31	54,229,725	57,145,923.05	2,916,198.05	284,112,532

PRELIMINARY AND TENTATIVE

Sep-02

FOR VERIFICATION PURPOSES & INTERNAL USE ONLY

	Month				Year to Date				Total Budgeted Fiscal Year Ending 6-30-2003
	Actual	Budget	Variance Over/(under)	Percent Over/(under)	Actual	Budget	Variance Over/(under)	Percent Over/(under)	
Sales and Use Tax	85,080,291	84,927,891	152,400	0.2%	167,699,645	168,984,375	(1,284,730)	(0.8%)	875,184,846
Individual Income Tax	108,179,557	95,869,690	12,309,867	12.8%	212,565,565	204,378,265	8,187,300	4.0%	1,104,663,826
Corporate Income Tax	15,092,881	13,198,608	1,894,273	14.4%	20,572,643	18,018,310	2,554,333	14.2%	80,489,997
Cigarette and Tobacco Tax	6,921,128	8,141,888	(1,220,760)	(15.0%)	25,613,783	27,764,079	(2,150,296)	(7.7%)	105,684,505
Public Utilities Tax	(1,117,077)	-	(1,117,077)	-	(1,267,078)	(150,000)	(1,117,078)	744.7%	30,400,000
Insurance Companies Tax	284,798	-	284,798	-	2,600,880	1,844,090	756,790	41.0%	56,646,354
State Tax	3,700,895	2,188,929	1,511,966	69.1%	2,472,047	2,188,929	283,118	12.9%	24,017,568
Property Tax - Unorg Territory	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9,669,807
Income from Investments	397,210	222,676	174,534	78.4%	360,261	452,955	(92,694)	(20.5%)	2,291,000
Transfer to Municipal Revenue Sharing	(10,625,989)	(9,893,807)	(732,182)	7.4%	(20,442,730)	(19,960,430)	(482,300)	2.4%	(105,519,016)
Transfer from Liquor Commission	1,883,079	2,222,165	(339,086)	(15.3%)	7,176,476	7,226,054	(49,578)	(0.7%)	26,290,223
Transfer from Lottery Commission	1,981,931	2,946,791	(964,860)	(32.7%)	9,378,113	9,371,162	6,951	0.1%	39,335,176
Other Revenues	10,873,118	12,225,331	(1,352,213)	(11.1%)	32,672,634	35,261,337	(2,588,703)	(7.3%)	152,458,488
Total Collected	222,651,821	212,050,162	10,601,659	5.0%	459,402,238	455,379,126	4,023,112	0.9%	2,401,612,774

NOTES: (1) Included in the above is \$10,625,989 for the month and \$20,442,730 year to date, that was set aside for Revenue Sharing with cities and towns.

(2) Figures reflect estimates of the Maine State Revenue Forecasting Committee approved in August 2002.

(3) This report has been prepared from preliminary month end figures and is subject to change.

STATE OF MAINE

Undedicated Revenues - General Fund

For the Third Month Ended September 30, 2002 and 2001

PRELIMINARY AND TENTATIVE

FOR VERIFICATION PURPOSES & INTERNAL USE ONLY

EXHIBIT II

	Month				Year to Date			
	Current Year	Prior Year	Variance Over/(under)	Percent Over/(under)	Current Year	Prior Year	Variance Over/(under)	Percent Over/(under)
Sales and Use Tax	85,080,291	82,252,577	2,827,714	3.4%	167,699,645	159,203,734	8,495,911	5.3%
Individual Income Tax	108,179,557	103,495,962	4,683,595	4.5%	212,565,565	207,269,939	5,295,626	2.6%
Corporate Income Tax	15,092,881	14,416,498	676,383	4.7%	20,572,643	17,396,378	3,176,265	18.3%
Cigarette and Tobacco Tax	6,921,128	7,536,838	(615,710)	(8.2%)	25,613,783	21,745,469	3,868,314	17.8%
Public Utilities Tax	(1,117,077)	4,000	(1,121,077)	(28026.9%)	(1,267,078)	(146,000)	(1,121,078)	767.9%
Insurance Companies Tax	284,798	44,094	240,704	545.9%	2,600,880	1,771,052	829,828	46.9%
Estate Tax	3,700,895	1,249,339	2,451,556	196.2%	2,472,047	(1,074,016)	3,546,063	(330.2%)
Property Tax - Unorg Territory	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Income from Investments	397,210	182,327	214,883	117.9%	360,261	1,291,054	(930,793)	(72.1%)
Transfer to Municipal Revenue Sharing	(10,625,989)	(10,208,417)	(417,572)	4.1%	(20,442,730)	(19,577,373)	(865,357)	4.4%
Transfer from Liquor Commission	1,883,079	1,837,880	45,199	2.5%	7,176,476	7,163,869	12,607	0.2%
Transfer from Lottery Commission	1,981,931	2,738,167	(756,236)	(27.6%)	9,378,113	8,857,601	520,512	5.9%
Other Revenues	10,873,118	12,592,240	(1,719,122)	(13.7%)	32,672,634	32,526,927	145,707	0.4%
Total Collected	222,651,821	216,141,505	6,510,316	3.0%	459,402,238	436,428,634	22,973,604	5.3%

STATE OF MAINE
Undedicated Revenues - General Fund
For Third Month Ended September 30, 2002

PRELIMINARY AND TENTATIVE

EXHIBIT III

FOR VERIFICATION PURPOSES & INTERNAL USE ONLY

Detail of Other Revenues	Month				Year to Date				Total Budgeted Fiscal Year Ending 6-30-2003
	Actual	Budget	Variance Over/(under)	Percent Over/(under)	Actual	Budget	Variance Over/(under)	Percent Over/(under)	
0100's All Others	1,128,375	1,164,050	(35,675)	(3.1%)	2,447,899	2,185,227	262,672	12.0%	15,272,386
0300's Aeronautical Gas Tax	117,576	72,993	44,583	61.1%	227,006	294,536	(67,530)	(22.9%)	920,000
0400's Alcohol Excise Tax	1,146,497	836,088	310,409	37.1%	3,745,829	3,069,399	676,430	22.0%	11,356,500
0700's Corporation Taxes	79,575	65,152	14,423	22.1%	381,100	260,451	120,649	46.3%	3,231,200
1000's Banking Taxes	698,590	702,784	(4,194)	(0.6%)	2,085,220	2,033,152	52,068	2.6%	8,655,000
1100's Alcoholic Beverages	211,998	231,717	(19,719)	(8.5%)	827,328	672,956	154,372	22.9%	3,090,900
1200's Amusements Tax	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,000
1300's Harness Racing Parimutuels	151,957	180,600	(28,643)	(15.9%)	315,408	436,100	(120,692)	(27.7%)	1,128,200
1400's Business Taxes	124,533	190,463	(65,930)	(34.6%)	726,133	903,045	(176,912)	(19.6%)	4,756,793
1500's Motor Vehicle Licenses	85,436	162,867	(77,431)	(47.5%)	337,463	502,980	(165,517)	(32.9%)	2,665,374
1700's Inland Fisheries & Wildlife	166,601	937,200	(770,599)	(82.2%)	2,435,756	3,149,000	(713,244)	(22.6%)	14,320,800
1900's Hospital Excise & Other	48,815	51,822	(3,007)	(5.8%)	113,383	124,362	(10,979)	(8.8%)	568,415
2000's Fines, Forfeits & Penalties	2,400,279	2,232,307	167,972	7.5%	6,328,418	6,336,374	(7,956)	(0.1%)	26,116,324
2200's Federal Revenues	1,676,536	1,759,090	(82,554)	(4.7%)	3,632,155	5,224,765	(1,592,610)	(30.5%)	20,805,074
2400's Revenues from Cities & Towns	-	-	-	-	(32)	-	(32)	-	-
2500's Revenues from Private Sources	150,175	187,667	(37,492)	(20.0%)	452,899	584,500	(131,601)	(22.5%)	2,338,020
2600's Current Service Charges	1,828,003	2,731,615	(903,612)	(33.1%)	5,273,934	6,505,152	(1,231,218)	(18.9%)	22,037,221
2700's Transfers from Other Funds	856,277	715,916	140,361	19.6%	3,329,309	2,975,338	353,971	11.9%	15,079,301
2800's Sales of Property & Equipment	1,895	3,000	(1,105)	(36.8%)	12,616	4,000	8,616	215.4%	113,000
Total Other Revenues	10,873,118	12,225,331	(1,352,213)	(11.1%)	32,672,634	35,261,337	(2,588,703)	(7.3%)	152,458,508

STATE OF MAINE
Undedicated Revenues - General Fund
For the Third Month Ended September 30, 2002 and 2001

EXHIBIT IV

Detail of Other Revenues	Month				Year to Date			
	Current Year	Prior Year	Change	Percent Over/(under)	Current Year	Prior Year	Change	Percent Over/(under)
0100's All Others	1,128,375	940,757	187,618	19.9%	2,447,899	1,882,125	565,774	30.1%
0300's Aeronautical Gas Tax	117,576	214,227	(96,651)	(45.1%)	227,006	302,975	(75,969)	(25.1%)
0400's Alcohol Excise Tax	1,146,497	1,219,489	(72,992)	(6.0%)	3,745,829	3,603,869	141,960	3.9%
0700's Corporation Taxes	79,575	65,560	14,015	21.4%	381,100	308,849	72,251	23.4%
1000's Banking Taxes	698,590	497,140	201,450	40.5%	2,085,220	1,977,170	108,050	5.5%
1100's Alcoholic Beverages	211,998	231,450	(19,452)	(8.4%)	827,328	614,978	212,350	34.5%
1200's Amusements Tax	-	20	(20)	(100.0%)	-	320	(320)	(100.0%)
1300's Harness Racing Parimutuels	151,957	176,979	(25,022)	(14.1%)	315,408	309,900	5,508	1.8%
1400's Business Taxes	124,533	171,732	(47,199)	(27.5%)	726,133	780,978	(54,845)	(7.0%)
1500's Motor Vehicle Licenses	85,436	149,679	(55,243)	(39.3%)	337,463	361,742	(24,279)	(6.7%)
1700's Inland Fisheries & Wildlife	166,601	(102,543)	269,144	(262.5%)	2,435,756	2,682,230	(246,474)	(9.2%)
1900's Amnesty, Hosp Excise & Other	48,815	21,279	27,536	129.4%	113,383	63,132	50,251	79.6%
2000's Fines, Forfeits & Penalties	2,400,279	1,902,362	497,917	26.2%	6,328,418	5,847,530	480,888	8.2%
2200's Federal Revenues	1,676,536	5,499,007	(3,822,471)	(69.5%)	3,632,155	5,970,432	(2,338,277)	(39.2%)
2300's County Revenues	-	-	-	-	810	13,226	(12,416)	(93.9%)
2400's Revenues from Cities & Towns	-	-	-	-	(32)	-	(32)	-
2500's Revenues from Private Sources	150,175	165,132	(14,957)	(9.1%)	452,899	447,793	5,106	1.1%
2600's Current Service Charges	1,828,003	866,000	962,003	111.1%	5,273,934	4,693,399	580,535	12.4%
2700's Transfers from Other Funds	856,277	582,722	273,555	46.9%	3,329,309	2,648,346	680,963	25.7%
2800's Sales of Property & Equipment	1,895	250	1,645	658.0%	12,616	17,934	(5,318)	(29.7%)
Total Other Revenues	10,873,118	12,592,242	(1,719,124)	(13.7%)	32,672,634	32,526,928	145,706	0.4%

PRELIMINARY AND TENTATIVE
FOR VERIFICATION PURPOSES & INTERNAL USE ONLY

Exhibit V

	Month				Year to Date				Total Budgeted Fiscal Year Ending 6-30-2003
	Actual	Budget	Variance Over/(under)	Percent Over/(under)	Actual	Budget	Variance Over/(under)	Percent Over/(under)	
Fuel Taxes	19,077,029	18,327,248	749,781	4.1%	33,430,141	32,613,448	816,693	2.5%	187,500,000
Motor Vehicle Registration & Fees	6,366,379	5,622,578	743,801	13.2%	19,814,292	18,442,258	1,372,034	7.4%	81,690,336
Inspection Fees	346,392	307,785	38,607	12.5%	1,099,583	689,934	409,649	59.4%	3,683,907
All Other	1,054,753	848,347	206,406	24.3%	2,801,907	2,484,085	317,822	12.8%	11,238,289
Total Revenue	26,844,552	25,105,958	1,738,594	6.9%	57,145,923	54,229,725	2,916,198	5.4%	284,112,532

NOTE: This report has been prepared from preliminary month end figures and is subject to change.

Consensus Economic Forecasting Commission

Recommendations - Historical Projections vs. Current Projections

Calendar Years	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
• W&S Employment (Annual Percentage Change)										
> Consensus 9/98	1.6	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.2				
> Consensus 1/99	2.0	1.5	1.3	1.1	1.2	1.2				
> Consensus 11/99	2.9	2.5	1.1	1.3	1.3	1.3				
> Consensus 1/2000	2.9	2.6	1.7	1.3	1.3	1.3				
> Consensus 9/2000	2.8	2.9	2.5	1.1	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3		
> Consensus 1/2001	2.8	2.9	2.5	1.1	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3		
> Consensus 2/2001	2.8	2.9	2.5	1.1	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3		
> Consensus 11/2001	2.8	3.0	3.0	1.0	-0.7	1.4	1.0	1.0		
> Consensus 1/2002	2.8	3.0	3.0	1.0	0.5	1.2	1.2	1.2		
> Consensus 7/2002	2.8	3.0	2.9	1.0	0.4	1.0	1.0	1.0		
> Consensus 10/2002	2.8	3.0	2.9	1.0	0.4	0.7	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Change in Forecast from July 2002:					0.0	-0.3	0.0	0.0		
• Personal Income (Annual Percentage Change)										
> Consensus 9/98	5.5	5.2	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.4				
> Consensus 1/99	5.0	5.0	5.1	5.1	5.2	5.2				
> Consensus 11/99	5.1	5.0	4.8	5.0	5.0	5.0				
> Consensus 1/2000	5.1	5.0	5.0	4.8	4.8	5.0				
> Consensus 9/2000	5.7	5.0	5.5	5.5	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0		
> Consensus 1/2001	5.7	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0		
> Consensus 2/2001	5.7	5.0	5.0	4.5	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0		
> Consensus 11/2001	6.1	4.3	5.5	5.0	3.0	4.7	4.5	4.5		
> Consensus 1/2002 *	6.1	4.3	5.5	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0		
> Consensus 7/2002	6.1	4.3	5.4	4.6	3.8	4.0	4.5	4.5		
> Consensus 10/2002	6.1	4.3	5.4	4.6	3.5	3.5	4.0	4.5	4.5	4.5
Change in Forecast from July 2002:					-0.3	-0.5	0.5	0.0		
* 2001 Personal Income growth percentage reduced from 5.5% to 5.0% by the Revenue Forecasting Committee										
• CPI (Annual Percentage Change)										
> Consensus 9/98	1.7	2.8	2.8	3.0	3.0	2.9				
> Consensus 1/99	1.7	2.8	2.8	3.0	3.0	2.9				
> Consensus 11/99	1.6	2.2	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5				
> Consensus 1/2000	1.6	2.2	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5				
> Consensus 9/2000	1.6	2.2	3.0	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5		
> Consensus 1/2001	1.6	2.2	3.0	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5		
> Consensus 2/2001	1.6	2.2	3.0	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5		
> Consensus 11/2001	1.6	2.2	3.4	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0		
> Consensus 1/2002	1.6	2.2	3.4	2.8	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0		
> Consensus 7/2002	1.6	2.2	3.4	2.8	1.7	2.5	2.5	2.5		
> Consensus 10/2002	1.6	2.2	3.4	2.8	1.7	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5
Change in Forecast from July 2002:					0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		

(Amounts in italics and boxes represent actuals; shaded amounts reflect revised forecasts and change from previous forecasts)

Updated: September 27, 2002

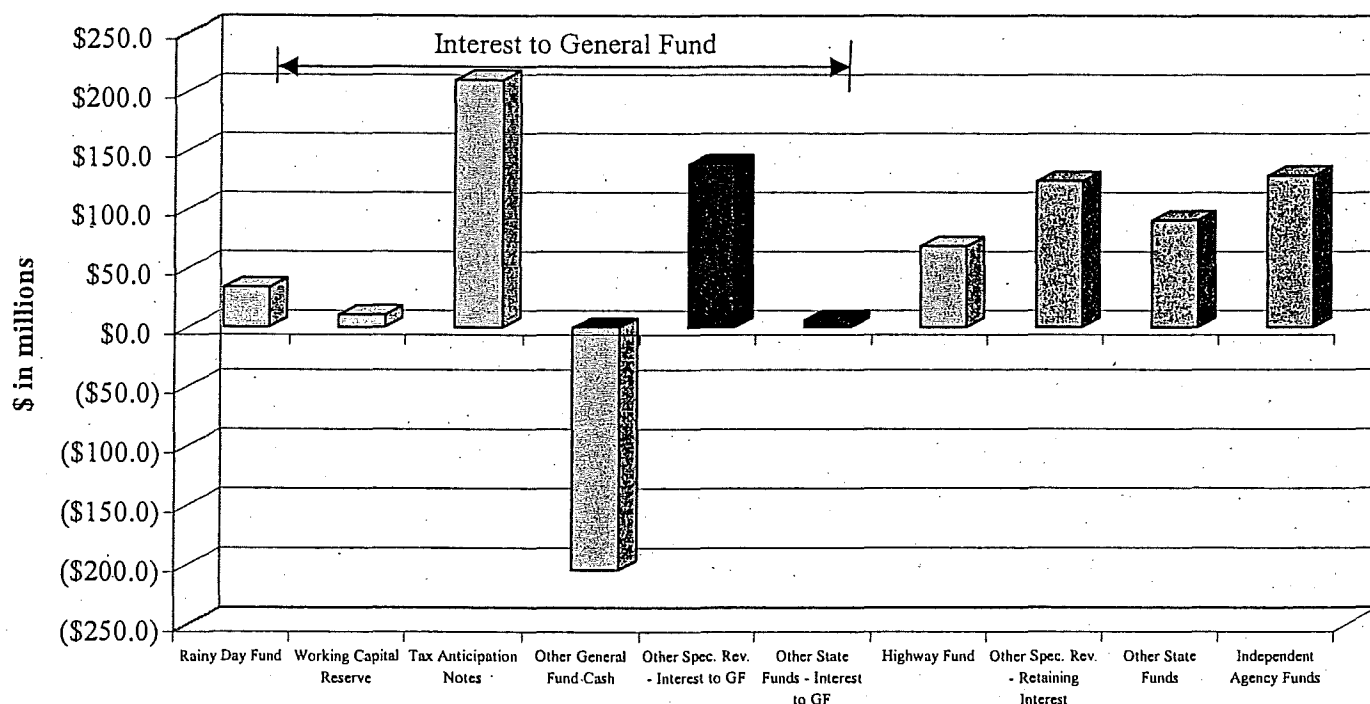
Composition of State's Cash Pool

August 2002 Average Daily Balances

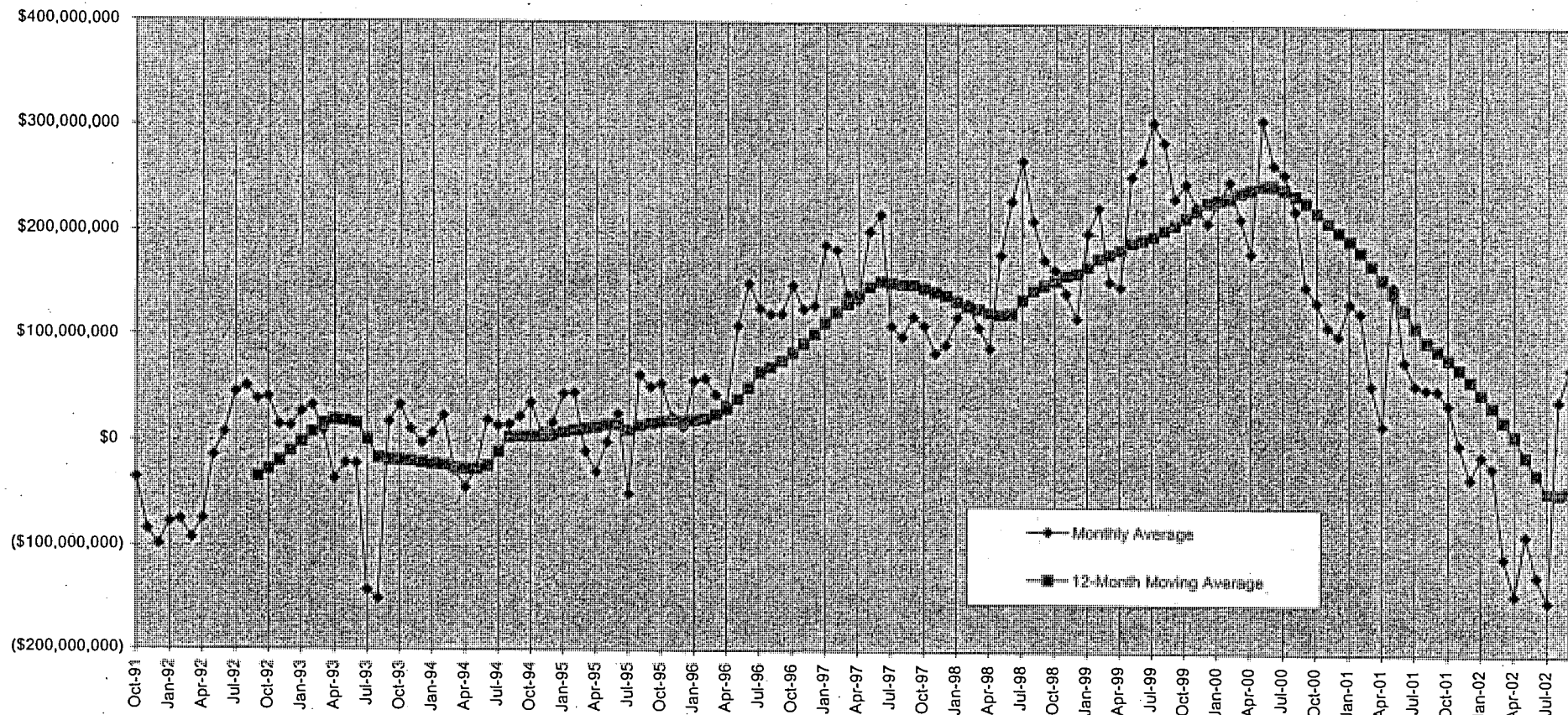
	August 2002
General Fund - Total	\$49,815,771
General Fund - Detail	
Rainy Day Fund	\$33,920,682
Working Capital Reserve	\$10,500,000
Tax Anticipation Notes	\$209,677,419
General Fund - Other	(\$204,282,331)
Highway Fund	\$68,809,569
Other Special Revenue - Contributing to General Fund	\$138,432,584
Other Special Revenue - Retaining Interest Earned	\$123,924,980
Other State Funds - Contributing Interest to General Fund	\$6,380,333
Other State Funds	\$90,771,653
Independent Agency Funds	\$128,746,691
Total Cash Pool	\$606,881,581

Composition of Cash Pool

Average Daily Balances in August 2002



GENERAL FUND DAILY STARTING CASH BALANCES

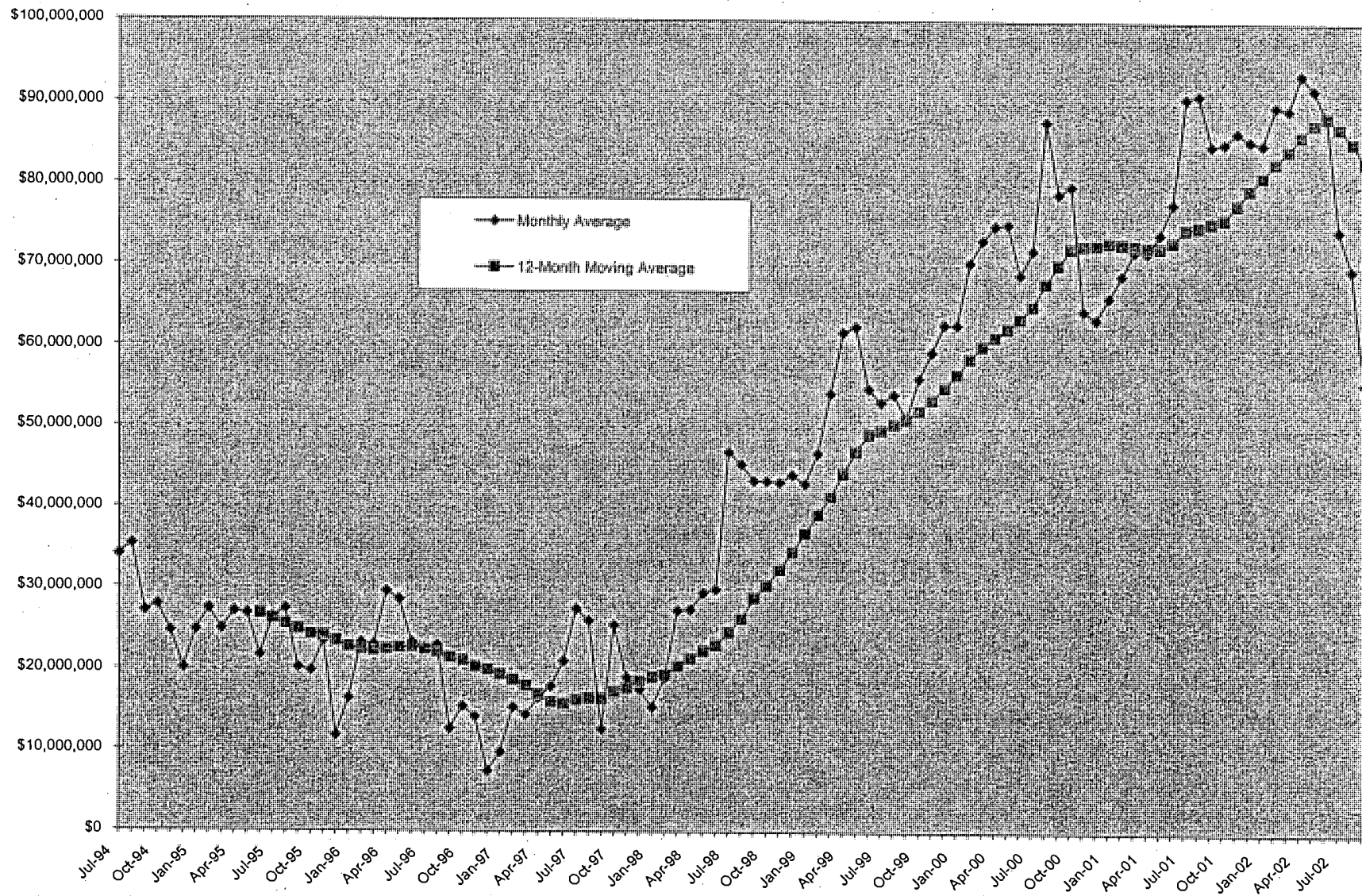


TAX ANTICIPATION NOTES - History from FY 1990-91 ⁽¹⁾

Fiscal Year	Amount Authorized	Amount Issued	Reference
2002-03 ⁽¹⁾	\$299,836,387 ⁽¹⁾	\$250,000,000	5 MRSA, §150 (as amended by PL 2001, c. 705)
2001-02	\$100,000,000	\$0	5 MRSA, §150 (as amended by PL 2001, c. 467)
1997-98	\$100,000,000	\$0	PL 1997, c. 24, §F-1 (Repealed by PL 1997, c. 643, §E-5)
1996-97	\$190,000,000	\$150,000,000	PL 1995, c. 665 §P-1
1995-96	\$182,000,000	\$182,000,000	PL 1995, c. 368, §V-1
1994-95	\$175,000,000	\$175,000,000	PL 1993, c. 707, §P-2
1993-94	\$170,000,000	\$170,000,000	PL 1993, c. 382, §1
1992-93	\$170,000,000	\$170,000,000	PL 1991, c. 780, §BB-1
1991-92	\$150,000,000	\$150,000,000	PL 1991, c. 589, §1
1990-91	\$125,000,000	\$115,000,000	PL 1991, c. 5, §1

Notes: ⁽¹⁾ 5 MRSA, §150 provides the statutory authorization for Tax Anticipation Notes. As amended by PL 2001, c. 705, the limit is the same as that imposed by the Constitution of Maine, Article IX, Sec. 14, 10% of total General Fund appropriations and Highway Fund allocations or 1% of the State Valuation, whichever is less. The amount authorized for fiscal year 2002-03 reflects General Fund appropriations and Highway Fund allocations for fiscal year 2002-03 through the 120th Legislature, 2nd Reg. Session. Special exceptions to the general authorization levels are detailed in this table.

HIGHWAY FUND DAILY STARTING CASH BALANCES



Legislative Council Technology Report

October 30, 2002

Bill Drafting System:

- H-P installed a stable and functioning software application between October 16th and 17th.
- The Legislature tested the software on October 18th and 21st with an H-P Senior Manager present on the 21st.
- The software was tested in a “production” like environment with six or more users on the system.
- The test plan called for ROS personnel to draft bills using the new system, Legislative personnel then determined if the system worked properly and in a timely manner.
- The software was able to perform the required bill drafting functions with several new “bugs” found in testing.
- Based on repeated tests over two-days, it was found that the software took excessive time to perform 3 standard bill drafting functions:
 - Document Check Out
 - Document Check In
 - Generate Word Documents
- The H-P Senior Manager on site witnessed the excessive times required for these functions to complete.
- The Legislature verbally communicated to H-P during the testing that the performance times were unacceptable. A letter followed from the Executive Director on October 28, 2002 formally communicating the non-acceptance of the system and requesting H-P promptly communicate their plans for correcting the performance issue.
- H-P has not disputed the system performance issue, and has assembled a team at the Toronto location of office that designed the database and wrote the code to correct the slow performance.
- H-P has committed to provide the Legislature with a plan (process and time) to improve performance by the end of this week.
- Legislative staff has started the process to prepare the Wang bill drafting system to support drafting for the 1st Session of the 121st Legislature.

Legislative Council Technology Report

October 30, 2002

Internet Access:

- A technical problem surfaced during the Columbus Day Weekend, the Executive Branch e-mail server recognized the Global Address List link with the Legislature as the best connection for sending e-mail to the Internet.
- To correct the problem the link needed to be disconnected.
- A new process to share address lists has been tested and works with no risk of e-mail being routed through the Legislature's Internet connection.
- The new process requires an additional software license, which is being ordered.
- The plan is to cutover shortly after the software license is in house and BIS completes the final steps on the Executive side.
- The plan to move to the Maine.Gov address is during the weekend of 11/11/02 prior to the New Member orientation.



Maine State Legislature
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS

13 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333-0013
Telephone: (207) 287-1670
Fax: (207) 287-1275

Memorandum

TO: The Honorable Michael V. Saxl, Chair
The Honorable Michael H. Michaud, Vice-Chair
Legislative Council
And Honorable Members of the Legislative Council

FROM: David C Elliott, Director *David*

DATE: October 24, 2002

RE: Legislative Studies Update

Attached is a summary of the status of legislative studies authorized for this interim. As you can see, appointments are complete, and all studies have begun work. Some of them are near completion. I would be happy to answer any questions.

Attachment

cc: The Honorable Richard A. Bennett, Senate President
David E. Boulter, Executive Director, Legislative Council

Progress Report on Legislative Studies
(Studies authorized or undertaken following the 120th Legislature/2nd Regular Session)
Status as of 10/24/02 9:59:55 AM

<u>Study Commission</u>	<u>Date First Convened</u>	<u>Date, Time & Location of Next Meeting</u>	<u>Report Date</u>	<u>Status/Progress Of Study Commission</u>
Bottle Redemption Businesses and Other Issues Related to the Handling and Collection of Returnable Containers, Committee to Study Reimbursement Rates for Maine's (PL 2001, c. 661)	8/28/02	Thursday – 11/14/02 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Augusta Armory Room 117	06-Nov-02	Extension requested
Casino on the Economy, Transportation Infrastructure, State Revenue and Job Market, Resolve to Study the Impact of a Maine-based (Resolve 2001, c. 124)	9/3/02	Friday - 10/25/02 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. meeting 1 p.m. – 5 p.m. PH Augusta Armory Room 209	06-Nov-02	Extension requested
Community Preservation Advisory Committee, An Act to Establish the (PL 2001, c 648; sunsets 6/1/08)	10/21/02	11/12/02 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. State House Room 437	Dec. 01 annually	Staffed by SPO; OPLA drafting assistance
County Jail Population, Cost and Reimbursement by the State, Joint Order to Study (HP 1731)			06-Nov-02	CRJ interim work. Meeting held during hearings on LD 2220.
Family and Medical Leave for Maine Families, Resolve to Continue the Study of Benefits and Costs for Increasing Access to (Resolve 2001, c. 115)	9/9/02	Wednesday – 10/30/02 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. Cross State Office Bldg. Room 220	06-Nov-02	
Fatherhood Issues Study Commission, Resolve to Establish a (Resolve 2001, c. 121)	8/27/02	Monday – 10/28/02 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Cross State Office Bldg. Room 214	06-Nov-02	
Financing of Long-term Care, Resolve Establishing a Blue Ribbon Commission to Address (Resolve 2001, c. 114)	9/19/02	Thursday – 10/31/02 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Cross State Office Bldg. Room 202	06-Nov-03	Interim report this year
Health Care System and Health Security Board (PL 2001, c. 439, Part ZZZ)	October 2001 Continuation	Monday – 10/28/02 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. State House Room 427	01-Dec-02	Extension requested; draft report due November 22.
MCJUSTIS Board, Resolve to Implement the Recommendations of the (Resolve 1997, c. 105, PL 1999, c. 451, PL 1999, c. 790, Resolve 2001, c. 45)	Continuation		15-Dec-02	In drafting stage

Progress Report on Legislative Studies
(Studies authorized or undertaken following the 120th Legislature/2nd Regular Session)
Status as of 10/24/02 9:59:55 AM

<u>Study Commission</u>	<u>Date First Convened</u>	<u>Date, Time & Location of Next Meeting</u>	<u>Report Date</u>	<u>Status/Progress Of Study Commission</u>
Proposed Revisions to School Finance Laws and Recommendations to Implement the Essential Programs and Services Funding Model, Department of Education and State Board of Education Study (PL 2001, c. 660)		Monday – 10/21/02	15-Jan-03	Staffed by DOE; OPLA drafting assistance. DOE/SBE updating essential program and services model
Public Funds are Used to Acquire Conservation Easements, Resolve to Promote the Interests of the People of Maine when (Resolve 2001, c. 116)	Continuation		15-Jan-03	Staffed by SPO; work complete – will report to ACF in January
Rail Transportation, Resolve to Establish and Fund the Task Force on (Resolve 2001, c. 120)	8/9/02		06-Nov-02	Last meeting held; final report being drafted; no legislation authorized
Recodification of Title 12, chapters 701-721 (HP 613)	(Staff study – continuation)		15-Jan-02	Initial draft to ROS
Salmonid Sport Fish in Maine, Commission to Study the Needs and Opportunities Associated with the Production of (PL 2001, c. 462)	Continuation	Wednesday – 10/23/02 10:00 a.m. Room 208 Cross State Office Bldg	31-Oct-02	Last meeting held; extension requested
Stormwater Management in Developed Watersheds, Resolve to Establish the Task Force to Study the Effectiveness of (LD 2186)	May 31, 2002		06-Nov-02	NAT Interim work
Unfunded Liability of the MSRS and the Equity of Retirement Benefits for State Employees and Teachers, An Act to Address the (PL 2001, c 707)		Friday – 11/08/02 Cross State Office Bldg. Room 220	06-Nov-02	Appointments completed; 1 st meeting scheduled; extension requested
World War II and the Korean War Veterans in the Hall of Flags, Resolve to Recognize (Resolve 2001, c. 113)		Wednesday – 10/30/02 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. State House Room 126	04-Oct-02 Initial Rep. 01-Nov-02 Final Rep.	Appointments complete; 1 st meeting scheduled
Youth Advisory Council, Legislative (PL 2001, c. 439, Part PPP)	9/14/02	Thursday – 11/14/02 3 p.m. – 8 p.m. Bangor Civic Center Lecture Room	Feb. 15th annually	



MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND PROGRAM REVIEW
5 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0005
Telephone: (207) 287-1635
FAX: (207) 287-6469

To: Members, Legislative Council

From: Grant T. Pennoyer *GP*

Date: October 2, 2002

Re: Recommendation for Reappointment to Revenue Forecasting Committee

Pursuant to 5MRSA §1710-E, the Revenue Forecasting Committee includes 6 members, 1 of whom is appointed by the Legislative Council. Under the law, that appointment must be a member of the Legislature's nonpartisan staff who is familiar with revenue estimating issues. As the Director of the Office of Fiscal and Program Review, I serve on the committee. Last year, the Legislative Council appointed Marc Cyr, a Principal Analyst in OFPR, to a 1-year term, ending on November 13, 2002.

I recommend that the Legislative Council reappoint Marc Cyr as the Legislature's nonpartisan staff member to the Revenue Forecasting Committee. Marc has extensive work experience in fiscal and revenue estimating matters. He is a positive legislative representative on the Revenue Forecasting Committee process and has gained some valuable experience over the past year. In addition, Marc as the Fiscal Note Coordinator tracks legislation that affects revenue. That focus is an important asset to the revenue forecasting process. With the potential for some significant turnover in the Revenue Forecasting Committee's membership with the pending change of Administration, I feel it would be beneficial for the Legislature to retain as much experience as possible on this important committee.

I have discussed my recommendation with Dave Boulter and he also is fully supportive of Marc's reappointment to the committee. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have about this reappointment and the revenue forecasting committee process. A copy of Marc's resume is attached for your review. Thank you.

cc: David E. Boulter
Marc Cyr

Attachment

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OCT - 3 2002

Marc A. Cyr
18 High Street
Hallowell, Me 04347
(207) 626-0910
marc.cyr@state.me.us

QUALIFICATIONS SUMMARY

Skills/Strengths

- Extensive experience and education in finance, accounting, management
- Able to grasp "big picture" quickly, yet meticulous and accurate with detail
- Can simplify and communicate complex issues effectively
- Able to supervise diverse group, implement strategies, accomplish goals/objectives
- Committed to excellence and integrity
- Software: MS Excel, MS Word, Lotus 123, Lotus Word Pro

WORK EXPERIENCE

Office of Fiscal and Program Review

2001 - present

Principal Analyst and Fiscal Note Coordinator

- Coordinate staff analysis of legislation including budget to determine financial impact on revenues and expenditures by fund.
- Management of Appropriations Table process including advising Senate on decision of which legislation will be placed before the Appropriations Committee.
- Communicate fiscal impact of proposed legislation to Legislature and interested parties in timely and accurate manner.
- Serves on Revenue Forecasting Committee to determine state revenue levels.
- Provide highest level of professional nonpartisan analysis and help to all members of the Legislature on variety of subjects across policy areas.

Office of Treasurer of State

1997 - 2001

Deputy Treasurer of State (Maine)

- Manage day to day operations of agency, responsible for all State cash functions including banking services, portfolio management, bond issues, Abandoned Property Program and Municipal Revenue Sharing Program.
- Analyze a 4 billion annual cash flow daily, make daily investment decisions on \$800 million portfolio and other trusts, transfer millions daily.
- Hire and train staff, establish work priorities, direct and evaluate to ensure proper control and accounting for State funds.
- State coordinator for (federal) Cash Management Improvement Act.
- Issue bonds, prepare Official Statements, work with rating agencies, coordinate State bond needs, track and report federal bond arbitrage.

Office of Treasurer of State

1984 - 1997

Treasury Fiscal Assistant

- Supervised staff in bank reconciliation process and accounting functions.
- Prepared departmental budgets, reviewed and approved all expenditures, prepared and filed federal tax forms 941 and 945.
- Served as Personnel Director for Treasury.
- Director of Municipal Revenue Sharing Program (\$100+ million annually).

- Calculated and distributed Treasurer's Cash Pool monthly.
- Assisted Deputy with information requests, accounting reports, and special projects.

State Department of Audit

1978 - 1984

Legislative Auditor

- Performed post period audit function of all State departments to ensure compliance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles.
- Analyzed accounting records, procedures, and policies, prepared reports recommending changes and improvements.

EDUCATION

- M. B. A., University of Maine, Portland, Me, 1991.
- Accounting Program, University of Maine at Augusta, Augusta, Me, 1977-1983.
- B. A. in Psychology, Western New England College, Springfield, Ma, 1975.

PROFESSIONAL BOARD

- As a founding member of the Board of Directors, Adaptive Equipment Loan Program, established policies and procedures for nationally recognized program to give low interest loans to people with disabilities. 1988 – 2001

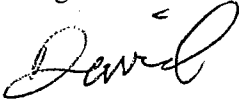


Maine State Legislature
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS

13 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333-0013
Telephone: (207) 287-1670
Fax: (207) 287-1275

Memorandum

TO: The Honorable Michael V. Saxl, Chair
The Honorable Michael H. Michaud, Vice-Chair
Legislative Council
And Honorable Members of the Legislative Council

FROM: David C. Elliott, Director 

DATE: October 29, 2002

RE: Interim study requests—approval required

This memo presents several requests for interim study reporting deadline extensions to the Legislative Council for action. Copies of communications from the studies groups are attached.

1. Request for extension of reporting deadline

The following studies are requesting an extension of their reporting deadline:

1. *Task Force to Study the Impact of a Maine-based Casino* from November 6, 2002 to December 15, 2002
2. *Commission to Study the Needs and Opportunities Associated with the Production of Salmonid Sport Fish in Maine* from October 31, 2002 to November 15, 2002.
3. *Health Care System and Health Security Board* from December 1, 2002 to January 15, 2003.
4. *Task Force to Study Methods of Addressing Inequities in the Retirement Benefits of State Employees and Teachers* from November 6, 2002 to December 13, 2002.
5. *Committee to Study Reimbursement Rates for Maine's Bottle Redemption Businesses* from November 6 to December 4, 2002.
6. *Committee to Continue to Study the Costs and Benefits of Increasing Access to Family and Medical Leave for Maine Families* from November 6, 2002 to December 15, 2002.

The Casino Study, the Salmonid Study, the Returnable Container Study, the Family and Medical Leave Study and the Retirement Study each indicate that they will be able to complete their work within the allotted number of meetings and, therefore, within budget. The Health Security Board has sufficient funds raised from independent sources to pay for its meetings.

cc: The Honorable Richard A. Bennett, Senate President
David E. Boulter, Executive Director Legislative Council

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Senate

Sen. Kevin L. Shorey, Chair
Sen. Jill Goldthwait
Sen. Chandler E. Woodcock

Public Members

Richard Balkite
Jim Carson
William Childs, Esq.
Dana F. Connors
Judy Guay
Kim Johnson



STATE OF MAINE

House

Rep. Donna M. Loring, Chair
Rep. Bruce S. Bryant
Rep. Janice E. Labrecque

Public Members

John Menario
Thomas Phillips
Laura Yustak Smith
Chief Michael Sperry
Vaughn Stinson
Chief Edward Strong

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTIETH LEGISLATURE

Task Force to Study the Impact of a Maine-Based Casino

September 30, 2002

The Honorable Michael V. Saxl, Chair
The Honorable Michael H. Michaud, Vice-Chair
Legislative Council
115 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear Representative Saxl and Senator Michaud:

As chairs of the Task Force to Study the Impacts of a Maine-based Casino, we respectfully request an extension of our reporting deadline from November 6, 2002 to December 15, 2002. The task force held its first meeting on September 3, 2002 and its second on September 30, 2002. We are authorized to hold a total of four meetings, one of them, may be a public hearing in Augusta. Even though it will be a challenge, we hope to successfully meet our charge holding just four meetings. It is the intent of the task force to schedule the remaining two meetings in a way that allows us enough time to gather information necessary to complete the duties listed in 2001 Resolves chapter 124 and prepare a report.

Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or comments. We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Kevin L. Shorey
Sen. Kevin L. Shorey (DDF)
Co-chair

Sincerely,

Donna M. Loring
Rep. Donna M. Loring (DDF)
Co-chair

cc: Members, Legislative Council
David E. Boulter, Executive Director, Legislative Council
David C. Elliott, Director, Office of Policy & Legal Analysis

COMMISSION TO STUDY THE NEEDS AND OPPORTUNITIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE PRODUCTION OF SALMONID SPORT FISH IN MAINE

ESTABLISHED BY THE 119TH MAINE LEGISLATURE

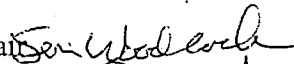
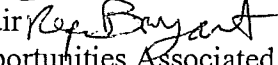
SENATOR CHANDLER WOODCOCK, CHAIR
SENATOR JOHN MARTIN
SENATOR LEO R. KIEFFER

*Staff: Curtis Bentley, Legislative Analyst
Office of Policy and Legal Analysis
Cross Office Building
Augusta, ME 04333-0013
Tel: 287-1670; Fax: 287-1275
E-mail: Curtis.Bentley@state.me.us*

REPRESENTATIVE BRUCE BRYANT, CHAIR
REPRESENTATIVE KENNETH A. HONEY
REPRESENTATIVE ZACHARY MATTHEWS
BILL GILZINIŚ
HAROLD BROWN
RICHARD NEAL
GARY PICARD
SONNY PIERCE
RICHARD D. SOLMAN
GEORGE SMITH
KEN ELowe
EVELLYN SAWYER
STEVE WILSON

October 7, 2002

Memo To: Hon. Michael V. Saxl, Chairman, Legislative Council
Hon. Michael H. Michaud, Vice-Chairman, Legislative Council

From: Senator Chandler Woodcock, Senate Chair 
Representative Bruce Bryant, House Chair 
Commission to Study the Needs and Opportunities Associated with the
Production of Salmonid Sport Fish in Maine

Re: Extension of October 31, 2002 reporting date

As provided by Public Law 462, the Commission to Study the Needs and Opportunities Associated with the Production of Salmonid Sport Fish in Maine ("Commission") is required to report its findings and recommendations to the Joint Standing Committee of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife by October 31, 2002. The Commission respectfully requests that the reporting date of October 31, 2002 be extended to November 15, 2002 for the following reason. The Commission has made great strides towards meeting its mission and at its October 13, 2002 meeting finalized a number of important recommendations. However, the commission was unable to make all of its recommendations because several key pieces of information were not available during that meeting. The Commission is confident that this information will be available for its final meeting scheduled for October 23rd at which time the Commission will be able to make the remaining recommendations necessary to fulfill its mission. Because of the late date in finalizing its recommendations, the Commission requests the additional two weeks to ensure adequate drafting and review time before issuing the Commission's final report.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

cc: Hon. Richard A. Bennett, Senate President
David Boulter, Executive Director, Legislative Council
David Elliott, Director, Office of Policy and Legal Analysis

OCT - 9 2002

SENATOR JOHN L. MARTIN, CHAIR
REPRESENTATIVE PAUL VOLENIK, CHAIR
SENATOR MARY E. SMALL
REPRESENTATIVE FLORENCE T. YOUNG
JAMES AMARAL
HOWARD BUCKLEY
ROBERT DOWNS
TAMMY GREATON
FRANK A. JOHNSON
BETH KILBRETH, PhD



MARJORIE MEDD
JOHN MORAN
FRANK O'HARA
ANTHONY NEVES
PATRICIA PHILBROOK
VIOLET RAYMOND
LEO SIEGEL, MD
RICHARD WEXLER, MD
CHRISTINE ZUKAS-LESSARD

STATE OF MAINE

OCT 17 2002

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTIETH LEGISLATURE

HEALTH CARE SYSTEM AND HEALTH SECURITY BOARD

TO: The Honorable Michael V. Saxl, Speaker, Chair;
The Honorable Michael H. Michaud, President Pro Tempore, Vice Chair;
Honorable Members of the 120th Legislative Council

FROM: Sen. John Martin, Senate Chair
Rep. Paul Volenik, House Chair

DATE: October 16, 2002

RE: Request to Extend Deadline to Submit Final Report to Legislature

We are writing to request an extension of the Health Security Board's reporting deadline from December 1 to December 31, 2002. Additional time is necessary for the Board's consultant, Mathematica Policy Research, Inc., to complete its feasibility study of the costs of a single-payer health care plan and for the Board to fully consider that study before making its final report and recommendations to the Legislature.

As you know, the Board has contracted with Mathematica to conduct a feasibility study using microsimulation modeling to estimate the costs and economic impact of a single-payer plan on Maine individuals and businesses. Because of delays in collecting and analyzing data needed for the study, the Board recently approved a revised work plan that now requires Mathematica to present its final results on or about December 11, 2002. According to the original work plan, the final results were expected by November 30, 2002. In approving the revised work plan, we felt the schedule delay was justified.

We will work diligently as a Board and with Mathematica to ensure that the feasibility study and the Board's own report and recommendations are completed by December 31. To complete its work, the Board has scheduled upcoming meetings on October 28, November 22 and December 2 (tentative). If necessary, the Board may need a final meeting on or about December 11, 2002 to formulate the Board's recommendations and receive public comment on the final results of the Mathematica feasibility study. The funds raised by the Board are sufficient to support the ongoing expenses associated with these meetings (legislative per diem and expenses).

Please contact us or our staff, Colleen McCarthy Reid, if you have any questions or concerns about our work plan. Thank you for consideration of our request.

cc: David E. Boulter, Executive Director, Legislative Council
David C. Elliott, Director, Office of Policy and Legal Analysis

SENATOR JOHN L. MARTIN, CHAIR
REPRESENTATIVE PAUL VOLLENIK, CHAIR
SENATOR MARY E. SMALL
REPRESENTATIVE FLORENCE T. YOUNG
JAMES AMARAL
HOWARD BUCKLEY
ROBERT DOWNS
TAMMY GREATER
FRANK A. JOHNSON
BETH KILBRETH, PhD



MARJORIE MEDD
JOHN MORAN
FRANK O'HARA
ANTHONY NEVES
PATRICIA PHILBROOK
VIOLET RAYMOND
LEO SIEGEL, MD
RICHARD WEXLER, MD
CHRISTINE ZUKAS-LESSARD

STATE OF MAINE

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTIETH LEGISLATURE

HEALTH CARE SYSTEM AND HEALTH SECURITY BOARD

TO: The Honorable Michael V. Saxl, Speaker, Chair;
The Honorable Michael H. Michaud, President Pro Tempore, Vice Chair;
Honorable Members of the 120th Legislative Council

FROM: Sen. John Martin, Senate Chair
Rep. Paul Vollenik, House Chair

DATE: October 29, 2002

RE: **Amended** Request to Extend Deadline to Submit Final Report to Legislature

We are writing to amend the request for an extension of our reporting deadline from December 1, 2002 to January 15, 2003. In our October 16th letter, we had requested an extension to December 31st. At our meeting yesterday, the Board decided that additional time was needed beyond December 31st to fully consider Mathematica's feasibility study and formulate the Board's comments and recommendations regarding the creation of a single-payer health care plan for Maine. Our rationale for requesting the extension is outlined in our October 16th letter.

Please contact us or our staff, Colleen McCarthy Reid, if you have any questions or concerns. Thank you for consideration of our amended request.

OCT 29 2002

cc: David E. Boulter, Executive Director, Legislative Council
David C. Elliott, Director, Office of Policy and Legal Analysis

**Task Force to Study Methods of Addressing Inequities in the
Retirement Benefits of State Employees and Teachers**

October 23, 2002

To: Representative Michael V. Saxl, Chair
Senator Michael H. Michaud, Vice-Chair
Legislative Council of the 120th Maine Legislature

Fr: Senator Beth Edmonds, Co-Chair *BE*
Representative Jackie Norton, Co-Chair *JN*
Task Force to Study Methods of Addressing Inequities in the Retirement Benefits
of State Employees and Teachers

Re: Extension of Reporting Deadline for the Retirement Task Force

We are writing to request an extension of the reporting deadline for the Task Force to Study Methods of Addressing Inequities in the Retirement Benefits of State Employees and Teachers. The deadline set forth in the enabling legislation (section 2 of Public Law 2001, chapter 707) is November 6, 2002. We are asking for an extension until December 13, 2002.

We were informed just recently that all the members of the Task have been appointed, and, with the upcoming election, we are not able to schedule our first meeting until November 8th. However, we believe that we can complete our duties in 3 meetings and can submit a report to you by December 13th.

Since we have not yet had our first meeting, we cannot speak for the entire Task Force. However, as co-chairs of the Task Force we feel that it is important to secure this permission so that we can plan accordingly at our first meeting.

Please contact either of us, or the analyst for the Task Force, Deb Friedman in OPLA, if you have questions about our request.

cc: Senator Richard A. Bennett, President Pro Tempore
David E. Boulter, Executive Director



STATE OF MAINE
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
STATE PLANNING OFFICE
38 STATE HOUSE STATION AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333

ANGUS S. KING, JR.
GOVERNOR

DAVID H. KEELEY
ACTING DIRECTOR

October 17, 2002

Mr. David E. Boulter, Executive Director of the Legislative Council
115 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333-0115

RE: The Committee to Study Reimbursement Rates for Maine's Bottle Redemption Businesses and Other Issues Related to the Handling and Collection of Returnable Containers

Mr. Boulter:

We are pleased to report that we have had two very successful meetings of the full committee, and that the two subcommittees have been meeting to gather additional information to aid in our deliberations. In our letter to you, dated September 6th, we raised the possibility that a limited time extension might be needed, in order to complete a thorough review of these rather complex topics.

The purpose of this letter is to request such a time extension. Where the Committee has been authorized to meet up to four times, and our third meeting is scheduled for October 23rd, I do not see a need for additional meetings. The report deadline of November 6th will not permit us to effectively address the topics under discussion. But we do believe that the work can be completed and the report filed by early December. We therefore respectfully request a limited time extension of four weeks to permit this Committee to complete its study.

In recognition of the commitment the members have made to see this study effort through, I hope that this request will be granted. I am very optimistic that the Committee will be able to complete its study, and finalize a report, within this additional time frame.

Please contact me, or George MacDonald (who is staffing this Committee) should you have questions or require additional information.

Cordially,

Edward Youngblood

Senator Edward Youngblood

OCT 18 2002

Cc: George MacDonald, State Planning Office

OFFICE LOCATED AT 184 STATE STREET, AUGUSTA, ME.

PHONE: (207) 287-6077

FAX: (207) 287-6489



Maine State Legislature
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS

13 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333-0013
Telephone: (207) 287-1670
Fax: (207) 287-1275

October 23, 2002

The Honorable Michael V. Saxl, Chair
The Honorable Michael H. Michaud, Vice-Chair
Legislative Council
115 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear Representative Saxl and Senator Michaud:

As chairs of the Committee to Continue to Study the Costs and Benefits of Increasing Access to Family and Medical Leave for Maine Families, we respectfully request an extension of our reporting deadline from November 6, 2002 to December 15, 2002. The Committee held its first meeting on September 9, 2002, its second meeting on October 7, 2002, and its third meeting on October 21, 2002. The fourth meeting is scheduled for October 30, 2002. The Committee anticipates that the information needed to complete the report will not be available until after the deadline of November 6, 2002. The Committee also anticipates the possibility of holding a fifth meeting to consider this new information. It is the intent of the Committee that this additional time will ensure a thorough consideration of all materials necessary to complete the duties listed in Resolves 2001, Chapter 115 and prepare a report.

Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or comments. We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Sen. Beth G. Edmonds ^{LB}
Sen. Beth G. Edmonds
Co-chair

Sincerely,

Rep. Gerald M. Davis ^{LB}
Rep. Gerald M. Davis
Co-chair

cc: Members, Legislative Council
David E. Boulter, Executive Director, Legislative Council
David C. Elliott, Director, Office of Policy & Legal Analysis

OCT 28 2002



Maine State Legislature
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS

13 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333-0013
Telephone: (207) 287-1670
Fax: (207) 287-1275

Memorandum

TO: The Honorable Michael V. Saxl, Chair
The Honorable Michael H. Michaud, Vice-Chair
Legislative Council
And Honorable Members of the Legislative Council

FROM: David C. Elliott, Director *David*

DATE: October 24, 2002

RE: Interim study requests—approval required

This memo presents several requests for interim study reporting deadline extensions to the Legislative Council for action. Copies of communications from the studies groups are attached.

1. Request for extension of reporting deadline

The following studies are requesting an extension of their reporting deadline:

1. Task Force to Study the Impact of a Maine-based Casino from November 6, 2002 to December 15, 2002
2. Commission to Study the Needs and Opportunities Associated with the Production of Salmonid Sport Fish in Maine from October 31, 2002 to November 15, 2002.
3. Health Care System and Health Security Board from December 1, 2002 to December 31, 2002.
4. Task Force to Study Methods of Addressing Inequities in the Retirement Benefits of State Employees and Teachers from November 6, 2002 to December 13, 2002.
5. Committee to Study Reimbursement Rates for Maine's Bottle Redemption Business

The Casino Study, the Salmonid Study, the Returnable Container Study and the Retirement Study each indicate that they will be able to complete their work within the allotted number of meetings and, therefore, within budget. The Health Security Board has sufficient funds raised from independent sources to pay for its meetings.

cc: The Honorable Richard A. Bennett, Senate President
David E. Boulter, Executive Director Legislative Council

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