

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)



SEN. BETH EDMONDS
CHAIR

REP. GLENN A. CUMMINGS
VICE-CHAIR

123RD MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

SEN. ELIZABETH H. MITCHELL
SEN. CAROL WESTON
SEN. JOHN L. MARTIN
SEN. RICHARD W. ROSEN
REP. HANNAH M. PINGREE
REP. JOSHUA A. TARDY
REP. SEAN FAIRCLOTH
REP. ROBERT H. CROSTHWAITE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
June 18, 2007
REVISED AGENDA

<u>Page</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Action</u>
	CALL TO ORDER	
	ROLL CALL	
1	SUMMARY OF THE MAY 24, 2007 MEETING OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL	Acceptance
	REPORTS FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND STAFF OFFICE DIRECTORS	
	▪ Executive Director's Report (Mr. Boulter) (No Report)	Information
9	▪ Fiscal Report (Mr. Pennoyer)	Information
	▪ Information Services Report (Mr. Mayotte) (No Report)	Information
	REPORTS FROM COUNCIL COMMITTEES	
	• Personnel Committee (Speaker Cummings, Chair) (Met on May 24, 2007)	
	• State House Facilities Committee (Rep. Pingree, Chair) (No Report)	
	• Budget Subcommittee (Sen. Martin, Chair) (No Report)	
	• Subcommittee to Administer Technology (President Edmonds, Chair) (No Report)	

OLD BUSINESS

12 **Item #1 Council Actions Taken By Ballot** (No action required) **Information**

NEW BUSINESS

Item # 1: Consideration of Legislative Study Requests **Roll Call Vote**

14 **Item # 2: Memo from Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety Regarding Security in the State House and Capitol Complex** **Information**

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REMARKS

ADJOURNMENT



SEN. BETH EDMONDS
CHAIR

REP. GLENN A. CUMMINGS
VICE-CHAIR

SEN. ELIZABETH H. MITCHELL
SEN. CAROL WESTON
SEN. JOHN L. MARTIN
SEN. RICHARD W. ROSEN
REP. HANNAH M. PINGREE
REP. JOSHUA A. TARDY
REP. SEAN FAIRCLOTH
REP. ROBERT H. CROSTHWAITE

123RD MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

MEETING SUMMARY
May 24, 2007

CALL TO ORDER

Legislative Council Chair, President Edmonds called the Legislative Council meeting to order at 3:20 P.M. in the Legislative Council Chamber.

ROLL CALL

Senators: President Beth Edmonds, Sen. Elizabeth Mitchell, Sen. John Martin,
Sen. Carol Weston, Sen. Richard Rosen

Representatives: Speaker Glenn Cummings, Rep. Hannah Pingree, Rep. Sean
Faircloth, Rep. Joshua Tardy, Rep. Robert Crosthwaite

Legislative Officers: Millie MacFarland, Clerk of the House
Michael Cote, Assistant Clerk of the House
David E. Boulter, Executive Director of the Legislative Council
Rose Breton, Legislative Finance Director
Margaret Matheson, Revisor of Statutes
Patrick Norton, Director, Office of Policy & Legal Analysis
Grant Pennoyer, Director, Office of Fiscal and Program Review
Paul Mayotte, Director, Legislative Information Services

Legislative Council Chair, President Edmonds convened the meeting at 3:20 P.M. with a quorum of members present.

SUMMARY OF APRIL 26, 2007 MEETING OF LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Motion: That the Meeting Summary of April 26, 2007 be accepted and placed on file. Motion by Speaker Cummings, second by Rep. Faircloth. **Motion passed, unanimous (6-0).** [Sen. Rosen, Sen. Weston, Sen. Martin, and Rep. Tardy arrived after the vote]

Legislative Council Chair President Edmonds asked if there was any objection to taking one item out of order. No objection was expressed so Legislative Council Chair President Edmonds proceeded to Item 1 under New Business: Consideration of After Deadline Bill Requests.

NEW BUSINESS

ITEM #1: Consideration of After Deadline Bill Requests

The Legislative Council considered and acted on thirteen after deadline bill requests. The Legislative Council's actions on these requests are included on the attached list.

The Legislative Council then returned to the other items on its agenda.

REPORTS FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND COUNCIL OFFICES

Executive Director's Report

David Boulter, Executive Director of the Legislative Council, reported on the following.

YMCA Youth in Government Program

The program was successfully concluded this year with about 140 students participating. Next year's program in the State House is tentatively scheduled for May 2008, after legislative adjournment.

Repairs to walks and plaza

The damaged bollard and pavers at the south plaza are tentatively scheduled to be repaired next week. Frost conditions have damaged the concrete steps leading from the State House to Capitol Street. Loose railings will be stabilized until repairs can be made after adjournment.

Senator Weston raised the concern regarding buses dropping children off in the parking lot. Mr. Boulter reported that improvements should be realized once signage is in place.

Security in the State House

Earlier this month, the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety heard a bill relating to security in the State House. While the committee's recommendation on the bill was "ought not to pass," it was evident that concerns about the current level of security measures in the State House remain. It is likely that the Legislative Council will be receiving a letter from the committee about security measures.

Donation of Painting by Artist Robert Indiana

On May 7, 2007, the Governor entered into an agreement with Robert Indiana of Vinalhaven, Maine accepting Mr. Indiana's donation to the State of Maine his painting entitled, *First State* with several stipulations. The oil painting was under consideration for several years under the Percent for Art program for the State House but was not selected.

Fiscal Report

Grant Pennoyer, Director, Office of Fiscal and Program Review, reported the following.

Revenue Update

- General Fund revenue was over budget by \$5.2 million in April. This increased the positive fiscal year-to-date (FYTD) variance to \$13.0 million (+0.6%).

- Individual income tax and estate tax revenues resulted in major positive variances.
- Cigarette tax and insurance company's tax revenues were the major negative variances. The insurance company's tax negative variance appears to be a timing issue that will be offset in May.
- Other Revenue was under budget in April by \$6.4 million, but \$4.4 million was related to liquor profit sharing revenue that was received late.
- Highway Fund revenue recovered in April. Total Highway Fund revenue was over budget by \$2.5 million in April, resulting in a modest positive variance of \$0.2 million (+0.1%) for the FYTD. Fuel tax revenues remain a concern that might be further affected by the increase in gasoline prices.

Cash Balances Update

- Average Cash Pool balance was \$514.7 million in April. This balance is lower than the average of the last 5 years of \$557.3 million, largely a result of the use of internal borrowing.
- General Fund internal borrowing peaked during this fiscal year in April at \$236.0 million. April individual income tax collections increased General Fund cash and reduced internal borrowing which remained above \$20 million in mid-May.
- Trends of General Fund cash balances as measured by a 12-month moving average had showed improvement through February 2007, but have recently turned downward.
- Highway Fund cash balances remain low based on historical standards and cash outlays are being actively managed to maintain positive balances.

Medicaid/MaineCare Update

- The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) did not provide a summary of MaineCare spending last Friday, but is scheduled to provide an update to the Appropriations Committee on Friday, May 18th. That update will indicate an additional \$13 million shortfall from previous projections based on corrected assumptions. Additional information is available in the May 2007 *Fiscal News*.

Revenue Forecasting Committee Meeting

- The Revenue Forecasting Committee (RFC) met on Thursday, May 17th, in an emergency meeting called by the State Budget Officer to review revenue performance based on new information available following April revenue collections and to revisit the assumptions surrounding racino revenue. The RFC recommended the following net increases to General Fund and Fund for a Healthy Maine revenue above its March 2007 revenue forecast:

General Fund Summary

	FY07	FY08	FY09	FY10	FY11
Current Forecast	\$2,987,211,473	\$3,057,687,944	\$3,142,467,585	\$3,245,731,326	\$3,309,551,500
Annual % Growth	1.9%	2.4%	2.8%	3.3%	2.0%
Net Increase (Decrease)	\$17,787,281	\$492,048	\$1,052,352	\$1,515,934	\$1,903,456
Revised Forecast	\$3,004,998,754	\$3,058,179,992	\$3,143,519,937	\$3,247,247,260	\$3,311,454,956
Annual % Growth	2.5%	1.8%	2.8%	3.3%	2.0%
Summary of Revenue Revisions by Major Revenue Category					
Individual Income Tax	\$20,500,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Cigarette and Tobacco Tax	(\$6,000,000)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Estate Tax	\$3,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Transfer to Municipal Rev. Sharing	(\$1,045,500)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other Revenues	\$1,332,781	\$492,048	\$1,052,352	\$1,515,934	\$1,903,456
Total Revisions - Increase (Decrease)	\$17,787,281	\$492,048	\$1,052,352	\$1,515,934	\$1,903,456

Fund for a Healthy Maine Summary

	FY07	FY08	FY09	FY10	FY11
Current Forecast	\$46,420,624	\$60,576,711	\$63,055,886	\$68,058,585	\$71,788,653
Annual % Growth	-1.0%	30.5%	4.1%	7.9%	5.5%
Net Increase (Decrease)	\$3,989,370	\$616,945	\$1,104,291	\$1,326,187	\$1,503,637
Revised Forecast	\$50,409,994	\$61,193,656	\$64,160,177	\$69,384,772	\$73,292,290
Annual % Growth	7.5%	21.4%	4.8%	8.1%	5.6%
Summary of Revenue Revisions by Major Revenue Category					
Base Payments	\$3,728,051	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Racino Revenue	\$261,319	\$616,945	\$1,104,291	\$1,326,187	\$1,503,637
Total Revisions - Increase (Decrease)	\$3,989,370	\$616,945	\$1,104,291	\$1,326,187	\$1,503,637

Information Technology Report

Paul Mayotte, Director, Office of Legislative Information Services, reported the following.

Legislative web page follow-up from the April Council meeting

Mr. Mayotte proposed several improvements to the legislative web pages for bill status that would make the legislative website easier to navigate, particularly when seeking bill status information.

Motion: That the proposed improvements to the legislative web pages be implemented. Motion by Representative Pingree, second by Senator Mitchell. **Motion passed, unanimous (10-0).** Mr. Mayotte was requested to work with the Clerk and the Secretary on changes to those web pages administered by the Senate and the House.

MELD Bill Drafting

The office continues to work with the Revisor's Office on system improvements.

Internet Service Upgrade

Oxford Networks has completed the installation of fiber optic cable for the legislature. Connection hardware is being installed and testing will start once the hardware is in place that will result in Oxford Networks providing (upgraded) Internet service to the legislature beginning in July.

Email

The email system is performing normally with improved processing speed. For the week ending May 13th 96,800 emails were processed; 50,200 emails (51.9%) were SPAM.

Senator Mitchell expressed concern that excessive SPAM was consuming email storage capacity. Mr. Mayotte commented that he would arrange for Senator Mitchell's mailbox size to be increased.

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL COMMITTEES

1. Personnel Committee

Personnel Committee Chair Cummings reported that the Personnel Committee has scheduled a brief meeting for May 24, 2007 immediately following the Legislative Council meeting.

2. State House Facilities Committee

Representative Pingree, chair of the committee, reported that the committee met on May 9, 2007 to consider several matters summarized as follows:

Naming of Welcome Center

The facilities committee considered the proposal to name the Welcome Center that was referred to the committee by the Legislative Council in April 2007. Most of the discussion focused on the potential policy implications of naming rooms in the State House after individuals. In summary, the committee unanimously concluded that it is inadvisable to establish a precedent of naming legislative spaces after individuals. It felt that an alternative, but appropriate, manner of recognizing former employee Robert Cammack for his contributions to educating students and other visitors to the State House is to install a plaque honoring Mr. Cammack that includes a photograph and description of his contribution.

Motion: That the Legislative Council honor the contributions of former House employee Robert Cammack to the Legislature by placing a plaque, including a photograph and brief description of his legislative contributions, in the Welcome Center. Motion by Representative Pingree, second by Representative Crosthwaite. **Motion passed, unanimous (10-0).**

Multi-year Plan for State House Maintenance and Improvements

The committee reviewed the proposed work plan for projects in and around the State House. As part of the plan, it reviewed options for landscape development of the central green space that lies between the State House and the cultural building. It selected the Stone Circle Garden option. It also suggested some minor changes that are reflected in the work plan in your packet. Overall, the committee was comfortable with the plan and felt it should proceed. The committee voted unanimously to recommend its approval to the Legislative Council.

Senator Rosen inquired if the city of Augusta would cost-share for sidewalk improvements along Capitol Street. Mr. Boulter will investigate the possibility of a city contribution when the project is slated to begin in 2008.

Motion: That the Legislative Council authorize maintenance and improvements to the State House and Grounds as described in the 2007 Revision of the Multi-Year Plan, and further authorize the Executive Director to take necessary measures to implement the plan in the accordance with the schedules contained in the plan. Motion by Representative Pingree, second by Representative Crosthwaite. **Motion passed, unanimous (10-0).**

State House Evacuation Plan Revision

The committee reviewed and ratified the State House Evacuation Plan, May 2007 update. The plan has now been distributed to legislators and legislative employees.

Visitor Parking

The committee received an update on a plan to provide short-term visitor parking immediately north of the cultural building. The 15-space row of parking is now open to visitors for 2-hour parking on a full-time basis. The change has been positively received by members of the public visiting the State House and the cultural building. No further action is needed.

Donation of Painting by Artist Robert Indiana

The committee briefly discussed the proposal by Robert Indiana to donate his painting, *First State*, to the State of Maine with several conditions. As Executive Director Boulter reported, the Governor ultimately accepted the painting as a gift to the State of Maine. No further action by the Legislative Council is required.

3. Subcommittee to Review the Study Committee Process

(No Report)

4. Budget Subcommittee

(No Report)

5. Subcommittee to Administer Technology (President Edmonds, Chair)

(No Report)

OLD BUSINESS**ITEM 1: Legislative Council Actions Taken by Ballot**

A copy of the list of actions taken by ballot by the Legislative Council since its April 26, 2007 meeting is attached. No further action by the Legislative Council is required.

ITEM 2: Constituent Services Computer application (Not on Agenda)

Senator Rosen asked to raise an issue not on the printed agenda. There was no objection. Senator Rosen asked what progress, if any, has been made in exploring obtaining a computerized program to help manage constituent service requests and contacts. Senator Rosen understood that there had been a meeting held to discuss such a system but had not heard anything further. Senator Mitchell commented that there is interest in having a system for constituent services staff. Mr. Boulter commented that in response to inquiries in several offices, he had met with some staff to understand the needs and interest in having a program. It was noted that the Governor's office uses a program to manage its constituent contacts. Other than the exploratory meeting, no other progress or decisions have been made. Legislative Council Chair Edmonds stated that she thought this is an appropriate matter to be considered by the Council's Subcommittee to Administer Technology. With the general agreement of the Legislative Council members, the matter was referred to the next meeting of the subcommittee.

There was no other Old Business.

NEW BUSINESS**ITEM #1: Consideration of After Deadline Bill Requests (including addendum)**

(See above discussion.)

**ITEM #2: Maine Legislative Council Policy on Legislative Studies
(Implementation of Joint Rule 353)**

OPLA Director Norton presented a recommended policy on legislative studies for Legislative Council consideration and adoption. He commented that the Council had approved the elements of the policy at an earlier meeting. This proposal incorporated them into a single policy document and is consistent with the recently adopted amendments to Joint Rule 353. Mr. Norton recommended approval.

Motion: That the Legislative Council adopt the proposed policy on Legislative Studies. Motion by Senator Mitchell, second by Representative Pingree. **Motion passed, unanimous (9-0-0-1), (Representative Faircloth was absent for the vote).**

**ITEM #3: Request by Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary to Report Out
Legislation Having a Nonconforming Legislative Study**

Mr. Norton explained that the new Joint Rule 353 establishes a procedure for committees to request permission to report out bills that contain studies that do not conform with the

provisions for legislative studies. The procedures provide for the Legislative Council to consider and decide whether the committee could report a study with nonconforming language. He emphasized that this decision is not a decision on the merits of the study. The bill would still go to the study table for the Council's consideration. There were four nonconforming provisions proposed in the amendment:

- 17 members rather than the 13
- Minority of legislators rather than a majority
- A later than allowed reporting date
- A more open ended extension than envisioned in Joint Rule 353

Mr. Norton noted that the committee would agree to make two of the four provisions conform to the standards.

Motion: That the Legislative Council authorize the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary to report out legislation having nonconforming legislative study language. Motion by Representative Pingree, second by Senator Rosen. **Motion passed, unanimous (9-0-0-1), (Representative Faircloth was absent for the vote).**

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REMARKS

Senator Weston mentioned that the Health and Human Services Committee may be seeking to meet up to 18-20 times during the interim. It was noted that the presiding officers would make that decision, if it hadn't already been made.

ADJOURNMENT

The Legislative Council meeting was adjourned at 4:12 P.M. Motion by Representative Pingree. **Motion passed, (10-0)**

Fiscal Briefing

Legislative Council Meeting

June 18, 2007

*Prepared by the
Office of Fiscal & Program Review*

1. Revenue Update

Total General Fund Revenue - FY 2007 (\$'s in Millions)

	Budget	Actual	Var.	% Var.	Prior Year	% Growth
May	254.3	252.8	(1.5)	-0.6%	255.3	-1.0%
FYTD	2,547.4	2,540.9	(6.6)	-0.3%	2,476.6	2.6%

- General Fund revenue was under budget by \$1.5 million in May. This increased the negative Fiscal Year-to-date (FYTD) variance to \$6.6 million (-0.3%). This variance reflects the \$17.8 million upward revision made to General Fund revenue in the special May 2007 revenue forecast.
- Sales Tax receipts reflecting sales through April were below expectations; reflecting a very late spring and the effect of the Patriots Day winter storm. The hope is that some of the sales that would have occurred in April have been deferred and will increase May sales. Data for May sales is not yet available.
- Individual Income Tax was under budget in May and for the FYTD due to lower than expected withholding. Not certain whether this might be a timing issue.

Total Highway Fund Revenue - FY 2007

	Budget	Actual	Var.	% Var.	Prior Year	% Growth
May	28.2	25.7	(2.6)	-9.1%	27.7	-7.2%
FYTD	279.0	276.6	(2.3)	-0.8%	276.4	0.1%

- Highway Fund revenue was under budget by \$2.6 million in May, resulting in a negative variance of \$2.3 million (-0.8%) for the FYTD. Fuel Tax represents the largest negative variance, but most major lines are below expectations.

General Fund and Highway Fund Revenue
Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2007
Reflecting May 2007 RFC Adjustments AND PL 2007, c. 1 (Emergency FY07 Supplemental Budget Bill)

MAY 2007 REVENUE VARIANCE REPORT

Revenue Line	May '07 Budget	May '07 Actual	May '07 Var.	FY07 YTD Budget	FY07 YTD Actual	FY07 YTD Variance	FY07 YTD Variance %	FY07 Budgeted Totals
General Fund								
Sales and Use Tax	72,515,016	67,536,410.92	(4,978,605.08)	801,918,338	795,461,202.60	(6,457,135.40)	-0.8%	974,740,367
Service Provider Tax	4,812,344	5,944,410.76	1,132,066.76	40,439,598	40,942,009.35	502,411.35	1.2%	48,911,765
Individual Income Tax	104,099,900	101,176,023.72	(2,923,876.28)	1,172,916,077	1,169,376,623.63	(3,539,453.37)	-0.3%	1,327,119,508
Corporate Income Tax	10,000,000	7,456,077.12	(2,543,922.88)	140,079,808	140,193,897.61	114,089.61	0.1%	172,078,755
Cigarette and Tobacco Tax	13,093,521	13,425,178.91	331,657.91	144,434,885	145,082,532.80	647,647.80	0.4%	164,502,981
Public Utilities Tax	18,629,578	18,171,425.00	(458,153.00)	16,891,746	16,317,029.00	(574,717.00)	-3.4%	16,891,746
Insurance Companies Tax	11,219,217	17,508,287.89	6,289,070.89	50,459,429	50,222,077.54	(237,351.46)	-0.5%	76,336,389
Estate Tax	3,505,457	4,274,239.66	768,782.66	46,393,624	46,254,278.01	(139,345.99)	-0.3%	52,465,498
Property Tax - Unorganized Territory	0	0.00	0.00	10,150,628	10,403,375.00	252,747.00	2.5%	11,597,312
Income from Investments	(265,523)	(339,414.83)	(73,891.83)	871,852	583,000.25	(288,851.75)	-33.1%	1,517,319
Transfer to Municipal Revenue Sharing	(9,762,790)	(9,287,759.05)	475,030.95	(109,923,047)	(109,444,660.41)	478,386.59	0.4%	(128,665,369)
Transfer from Lottery Commission	3,798,827	4,077,800.06	278,973.06	45,585,921	46,116,785.74	530,864.74	1.2%	50,334,250
Other Revenue	22,624,078	22,829,752.18	205,674.18	187,205,784	189,343,370.63	2,137,586.63	1.1%	219,380,952
Totals	254,269,625	252,772,432.34	(1,497,192.66)	2,547,424,643	2,540,851,521.75	(6,573,121.25)	-0.3%	2,987,211,473
Highway Fund								
Fuel Taxes	17,004,500	16,379,438.53	(625,061.47)	186,026,436	184,711,916.09	(1,314,519.91)	-0.7%	227,484,941
Motor Vehicle Registration and Fees	10,001,838	8,098,857.89	(1,902,980.11)	77,437,405	76,785,930.67	(651,474.33)	-0.8%	86,476,317
Inspection Fees	411,056	369,829.95	(41,226.05)	3,977,781	3,946,804.85	(30,976.15)	-0.8%	4,379,756
Fines	182,461	105,932.65	(76,528.35)	1,834,392	1,535,951.28	(298,440.72)	-16.3%	2,018,239
Income from Investments	60,000	126,787.36	66,787.36	736,643	826,786.24	90,143.24	12.2%	795,000
Other Revenue	578,521	597,685.02	19,164.02	8,941,966	8,825,560.16	(116,405.84)	-1.3%	9,603,076
Totals	28,238,376	25,678,531.40	(2,559,844.60)	278,954,623	276,632,949.29	(2,321,673.71)	-0.8%	330,757,329

**Comparison of Actual Fiscal Year-to-Date Revenue
Through May of Each Fiscal Year**

REVENUE CATEGORY	FY 2003	% Chg	FY 2004	% Chg	FY 2005	% Chg	FY 2006	% Chg	FY 2007	% Chg
GENERAL FUND										
Sales and Use Tax	\$699,387,794.65	2.6%	\$752,587,905.47	7.6%	\$735,784,841.31	2.6%	\$776,695,912.29	5.6%	\$795,461,202.60	2.4%
Service Provider Tax	\$0.00	N/A	\$0.00	N/A	\$36,686,202.81	N/A	\$39,023,058.52	6.4%	\$40,942,009.35	4.9%
Individual Income Tax	\$915,737,281.19	-0.5%	\$993,970,957.64	8.5%	\$1,123,679,264.77	13.0%	\$1,187,362,162.98	5.7%	\$1,279,080,375.97	7.7%
Individual Income Tax (Circuitbreaker)	\$0.00	N/A	\$0.00	N/A	(\$26,018,842.00)	N/A	(\$41,388,925.85)	-59.1%	(\$43,178,569.86)	-4.3%
Individual Income Tax (BETR)	\$0.00	N/A	\$0.00	N/A	\$0.00	N/A	(\$67,061,726.06)	N/A	(\$66,525,182.48)	0.8%
Corporate Income Tax	\$71,195,729.51	16.5%	\$89,173,112.52	25.3%	\$104,551,137.84	17.2%	\$161,328,700.54	54.3%	\$140,193,897.61	-13.1%
Cigarette and Tobacco Tax	\$91,289,813.76	2.7%	\$86,690,962.93	-5.0%	\$87,334,445.85	0.7%	\$139,947,609.91	60.2%	\$145,082,532.80	3.7%
Public Utilities Tax	\$29,159,650.50	-4.3%	\$27,990,139.69	-4.0%	\$25,414,127.56	-9.2%	\$20,627,036.49	-18.8%	\$16,317,029.00	-20.9%
Insurance Companies Tax	\$51,191,565.93	30.7%	\$50,438,779.79	-1.5%	\$50,024,352.32	-0.8%	\$51,917,486.60	3.8%	\$50,222,077.54	-3.3%
Estate Tax	\$23,991,458.71	41.1%	\$21,942,083.20	-8.5%	\$25,330,612.55	15.4%	\$66,070,425.00	160.8%	\$46,254,278.01	-30.0%
Property Tax - Unorganized Territory	\$9,300,585.00	5.4%	\$8,937,092.00	-3.9%	\$9,638,377.00	7.8%	\$9,560,399.00	-0.8%	\$10,403,375.00	8.8%
Income from Investments	\$2,024,130.42	-40.3%	\$1,699,537.51	-16.0%	\$4,221,872.98	148.4%	\$5,476,072.09	29.7%	\$583,000.25	-89.4%
Revenue Sharing Transfers	(\$86,002,361.06)	-1.4%	(\$93,622,330.78)	-8.9%	(\$100,708,812.81)	-7.6%	(\$104,853,918.30)	-4.1%	(\$109,444,660.41)	-4.4%
Liquor Transfers	\$23,767,245.15	4.1%	\$100,114,969.87	321.2%	\$50,158,495.87	-49.9%	\$2,557,443.62	-94.9%	\$4,412,264.00	72.5%
Lottery Transfers	\$36,028,124.61	-0.4%	\$37,917,897.75	5.2%	\$45,696,533.75	20.5%	\$47,395,090.59	3.7%	\$46,116,785.74	-2.7%
Other Revenue	\$143,608,939.60	1.4%	\$180,412,077.98	25.6%	\$176,812,061.44	-2.0%	\$181,919,092.35	2.9%	\$184,931,106.63	1.7%
TOTAL GENERAL FUND REVENUE	\$2,010,679,957.97	2.2%	\$2,258,253,185.57	12.3%	\$2,348,604,671.24	4.0%	\$2,476,575,919.77	5.4%	\$2,540,851,521.75	2.6%
HIGHWAY FUND										
Fuel Taxes	\$152,533,494.24	2.0%	\$174,603,544.92	14.5%	\$181,227,818.21	3.8%	\$181,884,807.88	0.4%	\$184,711,916.09	1.6%
Motor Vehicle Registration and Fees	\$73,648,668.28	-1.5%	\$73,247,218.06	-0.5%	\$75,207,713.68	2.7%	\$78,800,336.25	4.8%	\$76,785,930.67	-2.6%
Inspection Fees	\$3,734,643.68	25.2%	\$4,175,280.63	11.8%	\$3,819,562.58	-8.5%	\$3,936,452.92	3.1%	\$3,946,804.85	0.3%
Fines	\$2,406,860.46	37.6%	\$1,748,011.49	-27.4%	\$1,373,064.29	-21.4%	\$1,651,258.11	20.3%	\$1,535,951.28	-7.0%
Income from Investments	\$1,183,727.25	-52.7%	\$560,361.32	-52.7%	\$1,093,274.98	95.1%	\$1,440,493.29	31.8%	\$826,786.24	-42.6%
Other Revenue	\$8,302,987.42	59.9%	\$8,578,483.15	3.3%	\$8,109,328.43	-5.5%	\$8,673,444.45	7.0%	\$8,825,560.16	1.8%
TOTAL HIGHWAY FUND REVENUE	\$241,810,381.33	2.1%	\$262,912,899.57	8.7%	\$270,830,762.17	3.0%	\$276,386,792.90	2.1%	\$276,632,949.29	0.1%

Adjusted for Service Provider Tax Split

**Legislative Council Actions
Taken by Ballot Since the
May 24, 2007 Council Meeting**

Request for Introduction of Legislation

- A. LR 2691 **JOINT RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO SUPPORT THE EMPLOYEE FREE CHOICE ACT**

Submitted by: Senator Beth Edmonds
Accepted: June 1, 2007 Vote: 10 – 0 in favor

- B. LR 2711 **Resolve, Authorizing the Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services to Sell Interest in a Certain Parcel of Land**

Submitted by: Rep. Timothy Carter
Accepted: June 6, 2007 Vote: 7 – 0 – 0 – 3 in favor

- C. LR 2706 **An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Committee to Review the Taxation of Slot Machine Revenues, Created by Executive Order 33 Fiscal Year 2006-07.**

Submitted by: Senator Beth Edmonds
Accepted: June 7, 2007 Vote: 8 – 2 in favor

- D. LR 2719 **An Act to Expand the Pine Tree Development Zone Benefits to Small and Midsize Maine Manufacturers**

Submitted by: Representative Nancy Smith
Accepted: June 12, 2007 Vote: 8 – 0 – 0 – 2 in favor

- D. LR 2721 **An Act to Protect Employee Choice of Collective Bargaining Agents in the Educational Unit Consolidation Process**

Submitted by: Senator John Martin
Accepted: June 15, 2007 Vote: 10 – 0 in favor

Request To Report Out A Non-Conforming Legislative Study

D. LD 391

**Judiciary Committee Request to Report out a Non-conforming
Legislative Study**

Submitted by: Senator Barry J. Hobbins
Senator Deborah Simpson

Accepted: June 15, 2007 Vote: 10 – 0 in favor

G:\Council\123rd Legislative Council\After Deadline Bill Requests\2007 June\Actions Taken By Ballot By Since 2007-5-24 Meeting.Doc6/15/2007 12:41:50 PM

BILL DIAMOND, DISTRICT 12, CHAIR
 EARLE L. MCCORMICK, DISTRICT 21
 ROGER L. SHERMAN, DISTRICT 34



MARION HYLAN BARR, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST
 FERN NEILSON, COMMITTEE CLERK

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S
 OFFICE


STAN GERZOFKY, BRUNSWICK, CHAIR
 PATRICIA A. BLANCHETTE, BANGOR
 ANNE M. HASKELL, PORTLAND
 STEPHEN P. HANLEY, GARDINER
 DAWN HILL, YORK
 BRYAN T. KAENRATH, SOUTH PORTLAND
 RICHARD M. SYKES, HARRISON
 CHRISTIAN D. GREELEY, LEVANT
 GARY E. PLUMMER, WINDHAM
 JOSEPH L. TIBBETTS, COLUMBIA

2007 JUN 14 P 3: 24 STATE OF MAINE

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

COMMITTEE ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

TO: Hon. Beth Edmonds, Chair
 Hon. Glenn Cummings, Vice Chair
 Members of the Legislative Council of the 123rd Legislature

FROM:  Sen. Bill Diamond, Senate Chair
 Rep. Stan Gerzofsky, House Chair
 Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice & Public Safety

RE: LD 1706, Resolve, Establishing a Commission to Review State House and Capitol
 Complex Security Issues

Date: June 13, 2007

The Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety recently voted unanimously ought not to pass on LD 1706, "Resolve, Establishing a Commission to Review State House and Capitol Complex Security Issues." The committee was persuaded that a commission was unnecessary due to the recent report on Capitol Security conducted by the Legislative Council and released August, 2006.

We would like to express our concern regarding the exclusion of the Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee from this review process. We understand that Title 3, section 902-A gives jurisdiction over the State House and Capitol Park to the Legislative Council. However, our Committee has jurisdiction over the Department of Public Safety, of which Capitol Security is a part. We believe that it is important for members of the Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee to be informed of and actively involved in issues regarding Capitol Security; therefore we request to be notified of future meeting times, so that we can be present.

We are also concerned that none of the recommendations of the Legislative Council report appear to have been implemented, including those that have no cost. The Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee encourages the Legislative Council to implement recommendations 5, 7 and 9 immediately and to inform us when this has occurred. We also believe that it is important for the Legislative Council to address those recommendations that require financial resources to increase personnel. It is imperative that this work occurs prior to a tragedy.

Please feel free to contact either of us or our committee analyst, Marion Hylan Barr, with any questions or comments that you would like us to consider. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

cc: Members, Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government
 David Boulter, Executive Director, Legislative Council



MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE
Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations & Financial Affairs
Augusta, Maine 04333

June 14, 2007

TO: President Beth Edmonds, Chair
Members of the Legislative Council

FROM: Margaret Rotundo, Senate Chair
Jeremy Fischer, House Chair
Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations & Financial Affairs

SUBJECT: Request to Access Legislative Website

Per enactment of PL 2007, c. 240, Part QQQ, the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs will serve as the steering committee to streamline State Government. As part of this initiative, we must undertake a comprehensive analysis of State Government with the goals of consolidating functions and eliminating duplication and inefficiencies in programs, in contracted services and in the administrative and management positions within the structure of State Government. At our meeting on June 14th, our Committee decided that in order to accomplish this initiative and report our findings to the Legislative Council on or before January 8, 2008 we needed to solicit input from Legislators, administrative officials, state employees, businesses and the general public.

For the reasons mentioned above, we are requesting your approval for the Director of the Office of Fiscal and Program Review to work with the Office of Information Services to establish a "Suggestion Box" on the Legislature's web page. This would be a one-way link where cost-saving suggestions could be offered. All suggestions would be initially reviewed by the Office of Fiscal and Program Review, presented and discussed with the Committee and scheduled for further follow-up if considered promising.

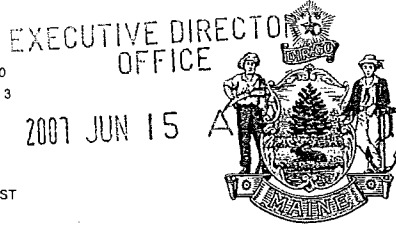
Thank you for your consideration and please let us know if you have questions regarding our request.

cc: Members, Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs
Grant Pennoyer, Director OFPR
David Boulter, Executive Director Legislative Council
James Dionne, AFA Committee Analyst

SENATE

LYNN BROMLEY, DISTRICT 7, CHAIR
ELIZABETH M. SCHNEIDER, DISTRICT 30
JONATHAN T. E. COURTNEY, DISTRICT 3

NATALIE L. HAYNES, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST
RHONDA MILLER, COMMITTEE CLERK



HOUSE

NANCY E. SMITH, MONMOUTH, CHAIR
STEPHEN R. BEAUDETTE, BIDDEFORD
RICHARD C. CLEARY, HOULTON
W. BRUCE MACDONALD, BOOTHBAY
MARK PAUL SAMSON, AUBURN
KIMBERLY E. W. SILSBY, AUGUSTA
CHRISTOPHER W. RECTOR, THOMASTON
SUSAN M. W. AUSTIN, GRAY
MICHAEL GARY BEAULIEU, AUBURN
KERRI L. PRESCOTT, TOPSHAM

STATE OF MAINE

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Beth Edmonds, President of the Senate
Glenn Cummings, Speaker of the House

FROM: Lynn Bromley, Senate Chair ^{LB}
Nancy E. Smith, House Chair ^{NS}
Members, the Joint Standing Committee on Business, Research & Economic Development

DATE: June 13, 2007

SUBJECT: Request for Interim Meetings

3a. The Joint Standing Committee on Business, Research & Economic Development respectfully requests authorization to hold 6 committee meetings during the interim to examine the burdens imposed by unnecessary and outdated State regulations on small businesses. The committee believes that it is the most appropriate entity to review the utility of the State's current economic regulations and is very interested in learning how it can provide any relief to small businesses that bear much of the burden of unnecessary regulatory costs. This important topic has been raised this legislative session in LD 270 (*Resolve, Establishing the Task Force to Eliminate Outdated or Unnecessary Laws and Rules to Stimulate Job Creation*), which the committee requested to carry over into the Second Regular Session.

In order to most effectively understand the type of regulations that are, in fact, unnecessary or outdated, the committee believes it should use 4 of its meetings to gather public comment from the small business community in a few areas of the State and to hear directly from business owners how the State can improve its business climate by removing any unnecessary laws and regulations. The committee intends to hold these forums at public meeting halls and other locations that are provided for the public's use free of charge. The committee feels strongly that this is a very important issue that deserves its attention during the interim. The committee's efforts in this area may help remove some impediments to economic growth in Maine and could help spur Maine's business climate.

cc: David Boulter, Executive Director
Patrick Norton, Director, OPLA
Members, Joint Standing Committee on Business, Research & Economic Development

BILL DIAMOND, DISTRICT 12, CHAIR
 EARLE L. MCCORMICK, DISTRICT 21
 ROGER L. SHERMAN, DISTRICT 34



STATE OF MAINE

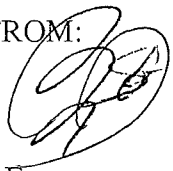
STAN GERZOFSKY, BRUNSWICK, CHAIR
 PATRICIA A. BLANCHETTE, BANGOR
 ANNE M. HASKELL, PORTLAND
 STEPHEN P. HANLEY, GARDINER
 DAWN HILL, YORK
 BRYAN T. KAENRATH, SOUTH PORTLAND
 RICHARD M. SYKES, HARRISON
 CHRISTIAN D. GREELEY, LEVANT
 GARY E. PLUMMER, WINDHAM
 JOSEPH L. TIBBETTS, COLUMBIA

MARION HYLAN BARR, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST
 FERN NEILSON, COMMITTEE CLERK

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

COMMITTEE ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

TO: Hon. Beth Edmonds, Senate President
 Hon. Glenn Cummings, Speaker of the House of Representatives
 123rd Maine Legislature

FROM:  Sen. Bill Diamond, Senate Chair
 Rep. Stan Gerzofsky, House Chair
 Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety

RE: Committee request for interim meetings

DATE: June 13, 2007

The Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety requests to meet to work on the following issues over the interim.

Long-term solutions to prison overcrowding

The committee would like to meet to continue the essential and important task of identifying and formulating long-term solutions to the overcrowding in the corrections system. The committee also plans to look at other ideas for improved efficiencies and collaboration in corrections. The committee requests to meet a total of 4 times during the interim to do this work, in order to thoroughly prepare proposals to be presented to the 2nd Regular Session of the 123rd Legislature.

Review Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act of 1999:

4a. **1. To ensure public safety by providing more useful and easily accessible information to the public regarding those sex offenders who pose the highest risk of reoffense.**

The committee is committed to work to identify how best to determine which sex offenders pose the highest risk of reoffending and how best to inform the public of those sex offenders who pose the highest risk of reoffending. Looking at varied responses across the state, including a number of municipalities that have adopted or are considering the adoption of differing residency restriction ordinances imposed on persons convicted of sex offenses, it is especially important that the Legislature provide uniformity and consistency in ensuring public safety. In order to do this, our sex offender registry and public notification process need to distinguish those who are

determined by evidence-based risk analyses to pose the greatest risk of reoffending. The Legislature must work with the other state agencies to implement a method to determine risk and to effectively communicate that risk to the public. These are complex issues that the committee has begun to discuss and needs to continue to do so to ensure that our registry is a useful tool.

2. To prepare model legislation to comply with requirements of federal Adam Walsh Act for legislative consideration.

Since the federal guidelines for the states' implementation of the requirements of the Adam Walsh Act were just released, the committee would like to meet to determine what those guidelines mean for our state and prepare a proposal that identifies what Maine law would look like if we chose to comply with the requirements.

The committee has asked for technical assistance from the Criminal Law Advisory Commission and plans to continue working with prosecutors, defense attorneys, advocates and state agencies in these efforts. The committee requests a total of 2 committee meetings during the interim to do complete this work.

The committee also requests the support of its legislative analyst for preparation and staffing of this interim work. Please let us know if you have questions and thank you for your attention to this matter.

cc: Patrick Norton, Director, OPLA
David Boulter, Executive Director, Legislative Council

SENATE

JOHN L. MARTIN, DISTRICT 35, CHAIR
PHILIP L. BARTLETT, II, DISTRICT 6
DOUGLAS M. SMITH, DISTRICT 27

SUSAN Z. JOHANNESMAN, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST
VERONICA SNOW, COMMITTEE CLERK



HOUSE

THEODORE S. KOFFMAN, BAR HARBOR, CHAIR
ROBERT S. DUCHESNE, HUDSON
JANE E. EBERLE, SOUTH PORTLAND
CHRISTOPHER W. BABBIDGE, KENNEBUNK
DAVID MIRAMANT, CAMDEN
RICHARD V. WAGNER, LEWISTON
JAMES M. HAMPER, OXFORD
JAMES D. ANNIS, DOVER-FOXCROFT
JOHN F. MCDONOUGH, SCARBOROUGH
BERNARD L. A. AYOTTE, CASWELL


STATE OF MAINE

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Beth G. Edmonds, President of the Senate, Chair
The Honorable Glenn A. Cummings, Speaker of the House, Vice-Chair
Legislative Council

FROM: Senator John Martin, Senate Chair 
Representative Ted Koffman, House Chair
Joint Standing Committee on Natural Resources

DATE: June 15, 2007

SUBJ: Request for OPLA staff study

24a.
The Joint Standing Committee on Natural Resources is writing to request OPLA staff support over the 2007 interim in connection with our review of annual and biennial reports that are required to be submitted to the Committee.

Various laws require over 60 reports to be submitted to the Committee. We established a subcommittee this session to begin a review of the list of reports with the intent of removing reporting requirements that are no longer necessary. The subcommittee performed a preliminary review of the list of reports and developed a preliminary list of parameters to use in determining whether a reporting requirement should be repealed.

We are requesting OPLA staff to compile information on each of the reports that are currently required to be submitted, including information on the subject matter of the report, whether the report has been submitted as required and whether the report meets any of the parameters identified by the subcommittee. Our intent is to use the OPLA staff information to develop a bill in the Second Regular Session.

If you have any questions in connection with our request, please contact one of us.

cc: Patrick Norton, Director, OPLA