

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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JAMES B. LONGLEY  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
AUGUSTA, MAINE  
04330

December 12, 1975

All Departments & Agencies:

The enclosed Executive Order speaks for itself. As you will undoubtedly recognize, this places an immediate control and restriction on the utilization and expenditure of funds in the "all-other" category. While the Governor and Council presently have the authority and the responsibility for approving transfers of funds between line categories, this Executive Order now adds an additional dimension of fiscal responsibility through a control of utilization of the expenditure of funds within the "all-other" category. This is made necessary by virtue of the presently serious financial situation here in the State of Maine and is an attempt to avoid the type of even greater financial problems in state government, such as has already occurred in states such as Massachusetts and New York and unfortunately, other cities and states around the country.

As you are already aware, from the early days of my administration, I have asked you as the leaders of government in the State of Maine, to take substantial steps in the reduction of costs in order that we might live within a balanced budget for the biennium here in Maine. These steps included:

- (1) A moratorium on out-of-state travel.
- (2) A moratorium on purchasing.
- (3) A moratorium on hiring of additional personnel.
- (4) Development of a motor pool approach for better utilization of state-owned vehicles and the resulting reduction in utilization of privately owned vehicles at a higher cost.

While each of you - almost without exception - have fully cooperated, I must admit that I am very disappointed that frequently dollars saved attributable to the foregoing economy steps, have frequently resulted in dollars being spent for other items within the "all-other" category. It would be the easiest thing in the world to conclude that "games" were being played, but I know this is not so in almost every instance because I am now ever so much aware that reduced budgets and appropriations and actual cost savings have been absorbed in deficits attributable to legislation enacted without proper funding or attributable to deficits we inherited or over which we had no control.

By the same token, as Governor of the State of Maine, I could not be more appreciative or grateful on the whole for some of the most fantastic and dedicated officers of government who are serving with me, as well as for the overwhelming majority of state employees who have truly placed the best interests of the State of Maine first and their own departments or special interests second. In return I pledge you my continued maximum possible effort to doing everything possible to help each of you resolve our individual and collective budgetary problems, and I am equally committed to doing everything possible to try to find some dollar availability for allocation to those state employees who are both in need of as well as deserving of salary adjustments.

Very truly yours,



James B. Longley

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E nc.