

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEN. TROY D. JACKSON
CHAIR

REP. RACHEL TALBOT ROSS
VICE-CHAIR

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
SUZANNE M. GRESSER



131st MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

SEN. ELOISE A. VITELLI
SEN. MATTHEA E. DAUGHTRY
SEN. HAROLD "TREY" STEWART, III
SEN. LISA M. KEIM
REP. MAUREEN FITZGERALD TERRY
REP. KRISTEN CLOUTIER
REP. BILLY BOB FAULKINGHAM
REP. AMY B. ARATA

March 23, 2023
1:30 P.M.

AGENDA

Page	Item	Action
	CALL TO ORDER	
	ROLL CALL	
1	SUMMARY OF THE FEBRUARY 16, 2023 MEETING OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL	Decision
	REPORTS FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND STAFF OFFICE DIRECTORS	
8	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Fiscal Report (Mr. Nolan)	Information
	REPORTS FROM COUNCIL COMMITTEES	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Personnel Committee	
	OLD BUSINESS	
12	Item #1: Council Actions Taken by Ballot (No Action Required)	Information
	NEW BUSINESS	
13	Item #1: Consideration of Requests for After Deadline Bill and Joint Resolutions	Roll Call Vote
17	Item #2: Adoption of the Legislative Council Policy on Legislative Studies for the 131st Legislature	Decision
20	Item #3: Request from the State YMCA to hold the Youth In Government Program at the State House	Decision
	ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REMARKS	
	ADJOURNMENT	

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**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
MEETING SUMMARY
February 16, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER

President Jackson called the February 16, 2023 meeting of the 131st Legislative Council to order at 2:26 p.m. in the Legislative Council Chamber.

ROLL CALL

Senators: President Jackson, Senator Vitelli, Senator Daughtry, Senator Stewart and Senator Keim

Representatives: Speaker Talbot Ross, Representative Terry, Representative Cloutier, Representative Faulkingham and Representative Arata

Legislative Officers: Darek Grant, Secretary of the Senate
Robert Hunt, Clerk of the House
Suzanne Gresser, Executive Director of the Legislative Council
Ed Charbonneau, Revisor, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Chris Nolan, Director, Office of Fiscal and Program Review
Danielle Fox, Director, Office of Policy and Legal Analysis

President Jackson convened the meeting at 2:26 p.m. with a quorum of members present.

SUMMARY OF JANUARY 26, 2023 MEETING OF LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Motion: That the Meeting Summary for January 26, 2023 be accepted and placed on file. Motion by Speaker Talbot Ross. Second by Senator Vitelli. **Motion passed unanimously (10-0-0-0).**

President Jackson asked if there was any objection to taking items out of order. There was no objection. The Chair then moved on to Item #1 under **New Business**.

NEW BUSINESS

Item #1: Consideration of After Deadline Bill Requests and Joint Resolutions

The Legislative Council proceeded to consider and vote on eight (8) after deadline bill requests and five (5) Joint Resolutions. The Legislative Council accepted for introduction eight (8) after deadline bill requests, and rejected five (5) Joint Resolutions. The Legislative Council's action on the requests is attached to this meeting summary.

Following the Legislative Council's consideration of requests for after deadline bills and joint resolutions, the President returned to the printed agenda.

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL OFFICE DIRECTORS

Fiscal Report

Christopher Nolan, Director of the Office of Fiscal and Program Review, presented the fiscal report found in the agenda packet.

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL COMMITTEES

None

OLD BUSINESS

Item #1: Council Actions Taken by Ballot

Requests for Introduction of Legislation:

LR 2439 An Act to Validate Certain Proceedings Authorizing the Issuance of Bonds and Notes by the City of Bath

Submitted by: Senator Eloise Vitelli
Date: February 13, 2023
Vote: 10-0-0-0 Passed

LR 2453 An Act to Modify the Deed for a Parcel of Property in the Town of Carrabassett Valley to Allow for Workforce Housing

Submitted by: Senator Russell Black
Date: February 14, 2023
Vote: 10-0-0-0 Passed

NEW BUSINESS

Item #2: Acceptance of the Report of the Commission To Develop a Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Program

The Advisory Panel To Better Understand and Make Recommendations Regarding the Implications of Genome-editing Technology for the Citizens of the State submitted its report for acceptance by the Legislative Council.

Motion: That the Legislative Council accept and place on file the report of the Commission To Develop a Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Program. Motion by Senator Daughtry. Second by Representative Cloutier. **Motion passed unanimously (10-0-0-1).**

Item #3: Acceptance of the Report of the Committee to Study Court-ordered Treatment for Substance Use Disorder

The Committee to Study Court-ordered Treatment for Substance Use Disorder submitted its report for acceptance by the Legislative Council.

Item #4: Acceptance of the Report of the Commission to Examine Reestablishing Parole

The Commission to Examine Reestablishing Parole submitted its report for acceptance by the Legislative Council.

Item #5: Acceptance of the Report of the Washington County Development Authority

The Washington County Development Authority submitted its report for acceptance by the Legislative Council.

Item #6: Acceptance of the Seventeenth Annual Report of the Right to Know Advisory Committee

The Right to Know Advisory Committee submitted its seventeenth annual report for acceptance by the Legislative Council.

Motion: That the Legislative Council accept and place on file the reports of:

- The Committee to Study Court-ordered Treatment for Substance Use Disorder;
- The Commission to Examine Reestablishing Parole;
- The Washington County Development Authority; and
- The Right to Know Advisory Committee.

Motion by Senator Stewart. Second by Representative Terry. **Motion passed unanimously (10-0-0-1).**

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REMARKS

Senator Stewart expressed his thanks to the members of the Legislative Council who had attended the Aroostook Day reception held the previous evening.

With no other business to consider or further announcements, the Legislative Council meeting adjourned at 3:29 p.m.

**131st First Regular Session
Maine State Legislature
Legislative Council Actions Taken
on Requests to Introduce
Legislation and Joint Resolutions
at Legislative Council Meeting Held on February 16, 2023**

AFTER DEADLINE BILL REQUESTS

REQUESTOR: Public Utilities Commission

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2461	An Act Regarding Enhanced 9-1-1 Public Safety Answering Points	Passed

SPONSOR: Rep. Amy Arata

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2458	Resolve, Requiring the Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands in the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to Swap a Parcel of Land with an Abutting Landowner in Chesuncook	Passed

SPONSOR: Sen. Richard A. Bennett

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2457	An Act to Amend the Membership of the Maine-Canadian Legislative Advisory Commission and the New England and Eastern Canada Legislative Commission	Passed

SPONSOR: Sen. Nicole Grohoski

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2440	An Act to Raise the Debt Limit of the Stonington Water District	No action taken

SPONSOR: Pres. Troy Dale Jackson

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2459	An Act to Provide Authorization to Aroostook County Emergency Services to Use the Statewide Emergency Services Radio Service	Passed

2468 An Act to Support Farming in Maine by Extending the Deadline for Manufacturers of Products Containing Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances to Report on Those Products Passed

2469 An Act to Allow Bargaining Agents for Public Sector Unions to Merge Passed

SPONSOR: Rep. Walter G. Runte, Jr.

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2446	An Act to Amend the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code to Allow Municipalities to Enact More Stringent Energy Efficiency Building Codes	Passed

SPONSOR: Rep. Joseph F. Underwood

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2462	Resolve, to Name 2 Brooks in the Town of Orient	Passed

JOINT RESOLUTIONS

SPONSOR: Rep. John Andrews

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
1266	JOINT RESOLUTION URGING THE BIDEN ADMINISTRATION TO OPEN UP DOMESTIC ENERGY PRODUCTION	No action taken

SPONSOR: Sen. Donna Bailey

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2400	JOINT RESOLUTION URGING MAINE'S FEDERAL DELEGATION TO CONTINUE WORKING WITH ALL STAKEHOLDERS TO FIX THE DELAYS IN POSTAL DELIVERY IN MAINE	No action taken

SPONSOR: Sen. Richard A. Bennett

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
885	JOINT RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING THE PRESIDENT AND CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES TO SUPPORT THE REFORM OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY OFFSETS OF THE GOVERNMENT PENSION OFFSET AND THE WINDFALL ELIMINATION PROVISION	Failed

SPONSOR: Sen. Eric Brakey

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2443	JOINT RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO INVESTIGATE THE ORIGINS OF THE SARS-COV-2 VIRUS	Failed

SPONSOR: Sen. Stacy Fielding Brenner

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
803	JOINT RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO LEAD A GLOBAL EFFORT TO PREVENT NUCLEAR WAR	No action taken

SPONSOR: Rep. Billy Bob Faulkingham

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2038	JOINT RESOLUTION TO URGE THE MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL COMMISSIONER TO REINSTATE PETE ROSE AND TO INDUCT HIM INTO THE BASEBALL HALL OF FAME	No action taken

SPONSOR: Sen. Craig V. Hickman

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2349	JOINT RESOLUTION, URGING MAINE'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO SUBMIT LEGISLATION TO PROTECT THE FOOD SUPPLY FROM PERFLUOROALKYL AND POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES AND OTHER CONTAMINANTS	No action taken

SPONSOR: Pres. Troy Dale Jackson

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
579	JOINT RESOLUTION, URGING CONGRESS TO ACT QUICKLY TO PROVIDE HEATING ASSISTANCE TO MAINE PEOPLE	No action taken

SPONSOR: Sen. James D. Libby

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
577	JOINT RESOLUTION, URGING CONGRESS TO LIMIT THE FEDERAL RESERVE MONEY SUPPLY	Failed

SPONSOR: Rep. Laurel Libby

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2224	JOINT RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO REPEAL THE REAL ID ACT OF 2005	No action taken

SPONSOR: Rep. Rick G. Mason

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
960	JOINT RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES TO DEMAND THAT THE SOUTHERN UNITED STATES BORDER BE CLOSED TO DRUG CARTELS	Failed

SPONSOR: Rep. Charles Axel Skold

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
966	JOINT RESOLUTION, SUPPORTING FEDERAL LEGISLATION GRANTING STATEHOOD TO THE PEOPLE OF WASHINGTON, D.C.	Failed

Fiscal Briefing

March 23, 2023

Prepared by the Office of Fiscal & Program Review

1. General Fund Revenue Update (see attached)

Total General Fund Revenue - FY 2023 (\$'s in Millions)

	Budget	Actual	Var.	% Var.	Prior Year	% Change
February	\$185.1	\$220.8	\$35.7	19.3%	\$223.1	-1.0%
FYTD	\$3,262.6	\$3,340.4	\$77.8	2.4%	\$3,173.5	5.3%

General Fund revenue was over budget by \$35.7 million (19.3%) for the month of February and over budget by \$77.8 million (2.4%) for the fiscal year to date. FY 2023 General Fund revenue through February 2023 was 5.3% greater than FY 2022 General Fund revenue through February 2022.

Individual income tax revenue was over budget by \$19.7 million for the month and by \$53.8 million (3.6%) for the fiscal year to date. The positive variance for the month was the result of estimated, withholding and final tax payments exceeding budgeted levels; tax refunds below budgeted levels (a positive impact on revenue) and a negative variance in fiduciary payments. Corporate income tax revenue was \$9.9 million above budget for February and \$21.3 million (10.9%) for the fiscal year to date. Sales and use tax revenue for February (January sales) was \$3.7 million above budget for the month and \$6.6 million (0.4%) above budget for the fiscal year to date.

2. Highway Fund Revenue Update (see attached)

Total Highway Fund Revenue - FY 2023 (\$'s in Millions)

	Budget	Actual	Var.	% Var.	Prior Year	% Change
February	\$24.7	\$27.2	\$2.4	9.7%	\$26.3	3.1%
FYTD	\$230.0	\$235.9	\$6.0	2.6%	\$234.8	0.5%

Highway Fund revenue was over budget by \$2.4 million (9.7%) for the month of February and over budget by \$6.0 million (2.6%) for the fiscal year to date. FY 2023 Highway Fund revenue through February 2023 was 0.5% greater than FY 2022 Highway Fund revenue through February 2022.

Fuel tax revenue was \$0.7 million less than budgeted levels for the month of February but was \$0.5 million (0.3%) greater than budget for the fiscal year to date. Motor vehicle registrations and fees exceeded budgeted levels by \$2.5 million for the month and by \$5.2 million (8.2%) for the fiscal year to date.

3. Cash Balances Update

The average balance in the cash pool for February was \$4,133.9 million, a decrease of \$222.6 million from January's average of \$4,356.5 million. The decrease was primarily the result of decreases in General Fund and Other Special Revenue Funds balances. The average Highway Fund balance for February was 19.6 million, a decrease of \$1.4 million from January's average of \$20.9 million

4. Economic and Revenue Forecast Meetings

The Consensus Economic Forecasting Commission (CEFC) is next scheduled to meet on March 31, 2023 to review and update the economic forecast for its April 1st report. The Revenue Forecasting Committee (RFC) will then meet in late April to review and update the revenue forecast for its May 1st report.

General Fund Revenue
Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2023 (FY 2023)

Updated 3/13/22

February 2023 Revenue Variance Report

Revenue Category				Fiscal Year-To-Date					FY 2023 Budgeted Totals
	February '23 Budget	February '23 Actual	February '23 Variance	Budget	Actual	Variance	Variance %	% Change from Prior Year	
Sales and Use Tax ¹	137,079,500	140,826,544	3,747,044	1,510,728,384	1,517,365,434	6,637,050	0.4%	7.5%	2,135,122,179
Service Provider Tax	3,837,538	3,936,409	98,871	33,940,454	34,355,268	414,814	1.2%	2.1%	50,051,352
Individual Income Tax	36,146,227	55,813,457	19,667,230	1,482,299,562	1,536,054,528	53,754,966	3.6%	7.0%	2,293,227,867
Corporate Income Tax	500,000	10,409,253	9,909,253	195,229,819	216,517,456	21,287,637	10.9%	4.0%	335,688,199
Cigarette and Tobacco Tax ²	10,548,115	11,724,538	1,176,423	101,431,059	102,277,768	846,709	0.8%	2.7%	153,052,320
Insurance Companies Tax	1,104,630	2,040,056	935,426	18,060,818	19,249,907	1,189,089	6.6%	12.6%	103,700,000
Estate Tax	2,350,000	25,338	(2,324,662)	28,137,083	22,358,237	(5,778,846)	-20.5%	-27.7%	37,400,000
Other Taxes and Fees *	9,853,912	12,408,536	2,554,624	94,653,936	91,845,939	(2,807,997)	-3.0%	-2.9%	153,494,063
Fines, Forfeits and Penalties	299,783	168,006	(131,777)	7,201,653	5,420,839	(1,780,814)	-24.7%	48.0%	10,532,292
Income from Investments	2,672,000	3,590,160	918,160	13,952,737	16,581,702	2,628,965	18.8%	289.5%	25,352,599
Transfer from Lottery Commission	4,807,693	4,162,612	(645,081)	42,067,313	49,393,943	7,326,630	17.4%	9.1%	62,500,000
Transfers to Tax Relief Programs *	(2,813,198)	(1,576,743)	1,236,455	(73,772,342)	(76,336,117)	(2,563,775)	-3.5%	-13.6%	(80,610,000)
Transfers for Municipal Revenue Sharing	(24,652,468)	(25,291,878)	(639,410)	(180,077,104)	(182,510,703)	(2,433,599)	-1.4%	-20.2%	(249,471,176)
Other Revenue *	3,396,483	2,567,843	(828,640)	(11,300,634)	(12,179,841)	(879,207)	-7.8%	-267.4%	11,214,274
Totals	185,130,215	220,804,130	35,673,915	3,262,552,738	3,340,394,361	77,841,623	2.4%	5.3%	5,041,253,969

* Additional detail by subcategory for these categories is presented on the following page.

1 / Includes revenue from adult-use cannabis sales taxes of -\$2.2 million (accounting adjustment) for February and \$12.2 million for the fiscal year to date.

2 / Includes revenue from adult-use cannabis excise taxes of \$1.1 million for February and \$8.7 million for the fiscal year to date.

General Fund Revenue
Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2023 (FY 2023)

Updated 3/13/22

February 2023 Revenue Variance Report

Revenue Category				Fiscal Year-To-Date					FY 2023 Budgeted Totals
	February '23 Budget	February '23 Actual	February '23 Variance	Budget	Actual	Variance	Variance %	% Change from Prior Year	
Detail of Other Taxes and Fees:									
- Property Tax - Unorganized Territory	0	0	0	12,591,194	12,442,999	(148,195)	-1.2%	-0.7%	14,813,169
- Real Estate Transfer Tax	1,685,287	1,656,240	(29,047)	17,042,768	15,631,765	(1,411,003)	-8.3%	-17.3%	25,691,346
- Liquor Taxes and Fees	1,809,940	2,786,520	976,580	15,051,371	14,557,816	(493,555)	-3.3%	3.2%	22,093,824
- Corporation Fees and Licenses	762,084	587,067	(175,018)	5,009,208	5,067,454	58,246	1.2%	26.1%	12,544,234
- Telecommunication Excise Tax	0	0	0	(1,096,096)	(1,046,096)	50,000	4.6%	N/A	5,700,000
- Finance Industry Fees	2,107,050	2,609,300	502,250	17,788,788	17,876,260	87,472	0.5%	3.3%	26,216,990
- Milk Handling Fee	58,520	74,365	15,845	490,507	564,596	74,089	15.1%	-38.1%	872,523
- Racino Revenue	854,002	916,729	62,727	6,503,014	7,329,444	826,430	12.7%	8.4%	10,513,564
- Boat, ATV and Snowmobile Fees	275,461	393,360	117,899	2,352,110	2,078,727	(273,383)	-11.6%	-12.3%	4,559,561
- Hunting and Fishing License Fees	1,163,261	1,849,560	686,299	11,400,669	11,808,016	407,347	3.6%	12.2%	15,994,284
- Other Miscellaneous Taxes and Fees	1,138,307	1,535,395	397,088	7,520,403	5,534,958	(1,985,445)	-26.4%	-22.9%	14,494,568
Subtotal - Other Taxes and Fees	9,853,912	12,408,536	2,554,624	94,653,936	91,845,939	(2,807,997)	-3.0%	-2.9%	153,494,063
Detail of Other Revenue:									
- Liquor Sales and Operations	1,873	0	(1,873)	13,293	30,344	17,051	128.3%	80.7%	28,500
- Targeted Case Management (DHHS)	2,711	3,550	839	39,153	39,965	812	2.1%	N/A	50,000
- State Cost Allocation Program	1,329,802	1,455,056	125,254	12,247,829	12,962,902	715,073	5.8%	-37.1%	18,342,179
- Unclaimed Property Transfer	0	0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	7,700,000
- Tourism Transfer	0	0	0	(22,154,921)	(22,154,921)	0	0.0%	-43.2%	(22,390,264)
- Transfer to Maine Milk Pool	108,501	0	(108,501)	868,015	0	(868,015)	-100.0%	100.0%	(354,616)
- Transfer to STAR Transportation Fund	0	0	0	(14,767,001)	(14,767,001)	0	0.0%	-99.8%	(14,954,564)
- Other Miscellaneous Revenue	1,953,596	1,109,237	(844,359)	12,452,998	11,708,870	(744,128)	-6.0%	-15.4%	22,793,039
Subtotal - Other Revenue	3,396,483	2,567,843	(828,640)	(11,300,634)	(12,179,841)	(879,207)	-7.8%	-267.4%	11,214,274
Detail of Transfers to Tax Relief Programs:									
- Me. Resident Prop. Tax Program (Circuitbreaker)	0	1,958	1,958	0	2,455	2,455	N/A	-55.3%	0
- BETR - Business Equipment Tax Reimb.	(2,725,669)	(1,556,337)	1,169,332	(12,280,253)	(13,488,052)	(1,207,799)	-9.8%	-49.7%	(19,000,000)
- BETE - Municipal Bus. Equip. Tax Reimb.	(87,529)	(22,364)	65,165	(61,492,089)	(62,850,520)	(1,358,431)	-2.2%	-8.0%	(61,610,000)
Subtotal - Tax Relief Transfers	(2,813,198)	(1,576,743)	1,236,455	(73,772,342)	(76,336,117)	(2,563,775)	-3.5%	-13.6%	(80,610,000)
Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Revenue - Total	1,518,278	2,338,099	819,821	14,338,500	14,556,199	217,699	1.5%	7.9%	21,511,715

Highway Fund Revenue
Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2023 (FY 2023)

Updated 3/13/23

February 2023 Revenue Variance Report

Revenue Category	February '23 Budget	February '23 Actual	February '23 Variance	Fiscal Year-To-Date					FY 2023 Budgeted Totals
				Budget	Actual	Variance	% Variance	% Change from Prior Year	
Fuel Taxes:									
- Gasoline Tax	14,599,024	14,452,731	(146,293)	134,309,780	134,471,734	161,954	0.1%	-0.5%	200,525,746
- Special Fuel and Road Use Taxes	3,992,840	3,292,173	(700,667)	33,601,055	33,553,651	(47,404)	-0.1%	-3.6%	50,253,103
- Transcap Transfers - Fuel Taxes	(1,453,551)	(1,303,761)	149,790	(12,650,719)	(12,357,411)	293,308	2.3%	1.1%	(18,432,321)
- Other Fund Gasoline Tax Distributions	(391,587)	(361,419)	30,168	(3,447,542)	(3,369,420)	78,122	2.3%	0.3%	(5,014,544)
Subtotal - Fuel Taxes	16,746,726	16,079,724	(667,002)	151,812,574	152,298,554	485,980	0.3%	-1.1%	227,331,984
Motor Vehicle Registration and Fees:									
- Motor Vehicle Registration Fees	4,246,763	5,434,632	1,187,869	43,758,440	45,395,574	1,637,134	3.7%	2.1%	69,162,203
- License Plate Fees	206,790	344,629	137,839	2,268,957	2,596,184	327,227	14.4%	2.1%	3,661,097
- Long-term Trailer Registration Fees	1,256,824	1,911,333	654,509	9,458,843	11,334,622	1,875,779	19.8%	12.6%	13,134,523
- Title Fees	780,394	1,002,900	222,506	9,428,031	9,934,379	506,348	5.4%	3.3%	14,325,795
- Motor Vehicle Operator License Fees	611,945	953,015	341,070	7,288,088	8,128,542	840,454	11.5%	6.1%	10,232,973
- Transcap Transfers - Motor Vehicle Fees	0	0	0	(8,674,076)	(8,649,635)	24,441	0.3%	-1.5%	(16,518,054)
Subtotal - Motor Vehicle Reg. & Fees	7,102,716	9,646,508	2,543,792	63,528,283	68,739,666	5,211,383	8.2%	4.4%	93,998,537
Motor Vehicle Inspection Fees	188,470	616,919	428,449	2,311,865	1,797,074	(514,791)	-22.3%	-8.8%	3,202,500
Other Highway Fund Taxes and Fees	74,627	86,404	11,777	843,702	1,005,896	162,194	19.2%	-3.9%	1,267,454
Fines, Forfeits and Penalties	50,534	107,291	56,757	404,272	787,487	383,215	94.8%	-0.3%	606,412
Interest Earnings	38,510	44,497	5,987	187,606	284,572	96,966	51.7%	138.0%	341,649
Other Highway Fund Revenue	548,143	570,542	22,399	10,877,547	11,006,707	129,160	1.2%	0.2%	13,025,283
Totals	24,749,726	27,151,884	2,402,158	229,965,849	235,919,955	5,954,106	2.6%	0.5%	339,773,819

**Legislative Council Actions
Taken by Ballot Since the
February 16, 2023 Council Meeting**

Requests for Introduction of Legislation:

**LR 2479 An Act to Ensure Access to Newly Born Male Infant Circumcision by Requiring
MaineCare Coverage**

Submitted by: Representative Kelly Murphy
Date: February 17, 2023
Vote: 8-0-0-2 Passed (with Representative Terry and Representative Faulkingham
recorded as absent)

**LR 2484 An Act to Provide Funding for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program to
Restore Benefits Being Reduced by the Federal Government**

Submitted by: Representative Holly Stover
Date: March 7, 2023
Vote: 7-0-0-3 Passed (with Senator Daughtry, Senator Stewart, and Representative
Arata recorded as absent)

**131st Maine State Legislature
Legislative Council
Requests to Introduce Legislation & Memorials
First Regular Session**

As of: 3/21/2023 9:29:20 AM

AFTER DEADLINE BILL REQUESTS

SPONSOR: Rep. Art Bell

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2493	An Act to Impose a Moratorium on New Point Source Discharge Licenses on the Lower Presumpscot River	

SPONSOR: Sen. Richard A. Bennett

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2487	An Act to Require Greater Disclosure by Railroad Companies of Hazardous Material Being Transported in Maine	

SPONSOR: Sen. Russell Black

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2499	An Act to Allow the Use of Unmanned Aircraft to Aid in the Recovery of Wounded and Deceased Wildlife	

SPONSOR: Sen. Matthea Elisabeth Larsen Daughtry

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2507	An Act to Amend the Terms of the Members of the Maine Space Corporation Board of Directors by Requiring Staggered Terms	

SPONSOR: Rep. Anne P. Graham

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2506	An Act to Allow Nurse Practitioners to Provide In-home Care	

SPONSOR: Sen. Nicole Grohoski

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2440	An Act to Raise the Debt Limit of the Stonington Water District	

SPONSOR: Sen. Stacey Guerin

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2489	Resolve, to Designate the Route 15 Bridge Located in the Town of Kenduskeag the William S. Pullen Bridge	
2500	An Act to Classify Maine Meat and Poultry Inspectors as Essential Workers	

SPONSOR: Sen. Craig V. Hickman

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2492	An Act to Help Fund the Preservation of the Historic Christ Church Bell Tower in the Town of Gardiner	

SPONSOR: Pres. Troy Dale Jackson

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2496	An Act to Ensure That a Teacher Who Participates in the Prevention of Dangerous Behavior Is Protected Under a Bargaining Agreement	
2508	An Act to Develop and Implement Innovative Systems to Provide Lobster Harvesters and Other Marine Resources Harvesters with Greater Access to Areas Where Fishing Has Been Restricted Due to Federal Right Whale Regulations	

SPONSOR: Sen. James D. Libby

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2490	Resolve, to Provide Winter Energy Relief Payments to Individuals Who Did Not File a Tax Return	

SPONSOR: Sen. Teresa S. Pierce

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2505	An Act to Regulate Hemp-derived Synthetic or Artificial Cannabinoids	

SPONSOR: Sen. Trey Stewart

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2494	An Act to Ensure Access to State Services in Northern Maine	
2504	An Act to Ensure Access to Critical Orthodontic Care in Northern Maine	

LATE-FILED MAJOR SUBSTANTIVE RULES

SPONSOR:

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2502	Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 119: Motor Vehicle Fuel Volatility Requirements, a Late-filed Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Environmental Protection	

JOINT RESOLUTIONS

SPONSOR: Rep. John Andrews

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
1266	JOINT RESOLUTION URGING THE BIDEN ADMINISTRATION TO OPEN UP DOMESTIC ENERGY PRODUCTION	

SPONSOR: Sen. Donna Bailey

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2400	JOINT RESOLUTION URGING MAINE'S FEDERAL DELEGATION TO CONTINUE WORKING WITH ALL STAKEHOLDERS TO FIX THE DELAYS IN POSTAL DELIVERY IN MAINE	

SPONSOR: Sen. Stacy Fielding Brenner

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
803	JOINT RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO LEAD A GLOBAL EFFORT TO PREVENT NUCLEAR WAR	

SPONSOR: Rep. Billy Bob Faulkingham

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2038	JOINT RESOLUTION TO URGE THE MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL COMMISSIONER TO REINSTATE PETE ROSE AND TO INDUCT HIM INTO THE BASEBALL HALL OF FAME	

SPONSOR: Sen. Craig V. Hickman

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2349	JOINT RESOLUTION, URGING MAINE'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO SUBMIT LEGISLATION TO PROTECT THE FOOD SUPPLY FROM PERFLUOROALKYL AND POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES AND OTHER CONTAMINANTS	

SPONSOR: Pres. Troy Dale Jackson

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
579	JOINT RESOLUTION, URGING CONGRESS TO ACT QUICKLY TO PROVIDE HEATING ASSISTANCE TO MAINE PEOPLE	

SPONSOR: Rep. Laurel Libby

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2224	JOINT RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO REPEAL THE REAL ID ACT OF 2005	

SPONSOR: Rep. Sophia Bailey Warren

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2486	JOINT RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO ENACT LEGISLATION CREATING A CARBON CASH-BACK PROGRAM	

**131st Maine State Legislature
Addendum
Legislative Council
Requests to Introduce Legislation
First Regular Session**

Actions Taken After March 21, 2023

SPONSOR: Sen. Anne Beebe-Center

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2512	An Act to Implement Innovative Systems to Provide Lobster Harvesters and Other Marine Resources Harvesters with Greater Access to Areas Where Fishing Has Been Restricted Due to Federal Right Whale Regulations	

SPONSOR: Rep. Maureen F. Terry

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2509	An Act to Ensure the Equitable Treatment of Pension Income	

**131st Maine State Legislature
2nd Addendum
Legislative Council
Requests to Introduce Legislation
First Regular Session**

Actions Taken After March 21, 2023

SPONSOR: Pres. Troy Dale Jackson

<u>LR #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
2513	An Act to Clarify the Definition of "Eligible Customer" Pursuant to Payments from the Energy Rate Relief Fund	

SEN. TROY D. JACKSON
CHAIR

REP. RACHEL TALBOT ROSS
VICE-CHAIR

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
SUZANNE M. GRESSER



131st MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE
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REP. KRISTEN CLOUTIER
REP. BILLY BOB FAULKINGHAM
REP. AMY ARATA

Legislative Council Policy on Legislative Studies for 131st Maine Legislature

1. Introduction

On March 22, 2007, the Legislative Council unanimously endorsed revisions to Joint Rule 353 and revisions to Legislative Council policies proposed by a Legislative Council subcommittee established to study the legislative study process. On May 15, 2007, the Legislative Council's proposed revisions to Joint Rule 353 were adopted by the House and the Senate, as amended by the Joint Select Committee on Joint Rules. Joint Rules adopted by each successive legislature have included Joint Rule 353.

Joint Rule 353, Section 11, requires the Legislative Council to adopt policies governing legislative studies at the beginning of each legislative biennium. Pursuant to that authority, the Legislative Council adopts this policy on legislative studies to establish policies and procedures governing the Legislative Council's authorization of legislative studies, conditions on the funding of legislative studies, exceptions to the definition of legislative study, legislative study drafting standards and other provisions necessary to satisfy the requirements of Joint Rule 353.

2. Council authorization of legislative studies

Legislative studies are authorized only upon the approval of a majority of the Legislative Council during its review of the study table, except that approval of 2/3 of the Legislative Council is required to authorize a legislative study that is required to submit a report to a subsequent Legislature.

3. Funding of legislative studies

The Legislative Council shall establish a study line in a legislative account to which legislative studies are budgeted and study expenses charged. That study line must include funds appropriated by the Legislature for those purposes and funds allocated by the Legislature from other departmental accounts to the legislative account for the purposes of funding a legislative study. The Legislative Council shall also establish budgets and provide sufficient money from the Legislative account for studies to be conducted by joint standing committees, joint select committees and other study committees of the Legislature. The Legislative Council shall provide sufficient money to enable the committees to reasonably conduct and complete the requirements of the studies.

4. Acceptance of private contributions to support legislative studies

Private financial or in-kind contributions to support the work of legislative studies may not be accepted from any party having a pecuniary or other vested interest in the outcome of the study. Any person, other than a state agency, authorized and desiring to make a financial or in-kind contribution must certify to the Legislative Council that it has no pecuniary or other vested interest in the outcome of the study. All such contributions are subject to the approval of the Legislative Council. All contributions accepted must be forwarded to the Executive Director of the Legislative Council along with an accounting record that includes the amount of contributions, the date the contributions were received, from whom the contributions were received and the purpose of and any limitation on the use of those contributions. The Executive Director of the Legislative Council shall administer the contributions and shall notify the chairs of the legislative study committee when those contributions have been received. If funding for a legislative study is contingent upon receipt of private contributions and sufficient contributions have not been received within 30 days after the effective date of the study instrument, then no meetings of the study are authorized and no study-related expenses of any kind may be incurred or reimbursed.

5. Exceptions to Joint Rule 353

The following limited exemptions to Joint Rule 353 are provided.

- A. Boards and commissions created in statute and codified in Title 5, chapter 379 are exempted from the provisions of this Joint Rule, except that the use of new legislative financial resources or Legislative Council staffing by a new board or commission or as the result of an amendment to an existing board or commission must be referred to a special study table for review and approval by the Legislative Council regarding the use of those resources;
- B. Legislation directing an agency or a group of stakeholders to study and report to the Legislature on any matter may include the appointment of not more than two members of the Legislature, provided that the report of the agency or group is required to be submitted within the biennium in which the legislation is introduced, that there are no other legislative appointments required, that the legislators are appointed consistent with subsection 3 and that no other legislative resources are required. Legislation creating such groups must be referred to a special study table for review and approval by the Legislative Council regarding the use of those resources.
- C. Notwithstanding Joint Rule 353, section 8, a joint select committee established in a manner consistent with Joint Rule 351 may, if so authorized in joint order establishing the joint select committee, introduce legislation to implement its recommendations.

6. Council review of committee requests to vary from Joint Rule 353

Pursuant to Joint Rule 353, the Legislative Council must specifically review and approve as an exception any legislative study that is inconsistent with that joint rule.

7. Authority and effective date

Pursuant to its authority under Joint Rule 353, Section 11, the Legislative Council hereby adopts this policy governing legislative studies on this 23rd day of March, 2023.

This policy takes effect immediately.

BY: _____
Suzanne M. Gresser, Executive Director

SEN. TROY D. JACKSON
CHAIR

REP. RACHEL TALBOT ROSS
VICE-CHAIR

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
SUZANNE M. GRESSER



131st MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE
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MEMO

To: Members, Legislative Council

From: Suzanne M. Gresser

Date: March 23, 2023

Re: Youth in Government Program

I received a request from Lonney Steeves, Director of the Maine YMCA Youth in Government Program, regarding the scheduling of the 2023 Youth in Government Program. This fall they are requesting permission to hold their annual event on the Veterans' Day weekend, beginning Friday November 10th and concluding Sunday, November 12th. Last year, the program involved 116 students from 13 different schools.

I have confirmed with the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House that the timing on this particular weekend will work for them, and I recommend that the Legislative Council once again authorize the Maine YMCA Youth in Government Program to hold its annual event over that weekend.