

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS**

Sen. Dawn Hill, Senate Chair

Rep. Margaret Rotundo, House Chair

PUBLIC HEARINGS State House Room 228

Tuesday March 4, 2014 1:00 PM: Initiatives or potential funding sources under consideration for inclusion in a Supplemental Budget for **Fiscal Year 2014** **except those related to an “across the board” percentage decrease in “All Other” appropriations (to be heard on Friday)**

Wednesday March 5, 2014 1:00 PM: Initiatives or potential funding sources under consideration for inclusion in a Supplemental Budget for **Fiscal Year 2015** related to the Bureau of Revenue Services only. Those wishing to testify on tax related initiatives that appear in both the FY 2014 and FY 2015 documents may do so on either March 4th or 5th.

Thursday March 6, 2014 1:00 PM: Initiatives or potential funding sources under consideration for inclusion in a Supplemental Budget for **Fiscal Year 2015** **except** those related to the Bureau of Revenue Services (to be heard on Wednesday) **and the “across the board” percentage deappropriations (to be heard on Friday).**

Friday March 7, 2014 10:00 AM: Fiscal Year 2014 and Fiscal Year 2015 proposals for an “across the board” decrease in appropriations for **“All Other”** (**not** Personal Service or Capital) in all programs **except** debt service, General Purpose Aid to Education, and direct “All Other” appropriations for retirement.

Separate documents covering funding requests and potential funding sources for each year of the biennium. The two documents will be posted on Office of Fiscal and Program Review website by the afternoon of Saturday, March 1st:

http://www.maine.gov/legis/ofpr/appropriations_committee/materials/index.htm

The audio portions of public hearings and work sessions held in Room 228 of the State House may be heard over the internet by addressing:

http://www.maine.gov/legis/ofpr/appropriations_committee/audio/index.htm

Due to the very tight timetable, the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs requests that testimony be limited to three (3) minutes.

If you wish to present written testimony to the committee, please bring 25 copies. Sign-ups for the each afternoon hearing will begin at 12 noon. You may not sign up anyone other than yourself or sign up for any but that day’s hearing. Testimony will, generally, be taken in the order of sign-ups or at the discretion of the Chairs. There will be a separate sign-up sheet for representatives of departments and agencies. The Chairs may elect to call names from this sheet prior to taking testimony from the general public. **Please plan to testify on only one of the hearing days. If you want to make a brief comment on a proposal slated to be heard on another day in addition to your main topic of testimony you may do so at the same time.**

Though **not part of these public hearings**, please note that the recommendations contained in the Report of the Director of the Office of Policy and Management: *Findings and Recommendations under Part F of the Biennial Budget* will be addressed in the development of a Fiscal Year 2015 Supplemental Budget. The public hearing on these recommendations was held on January 16th and 17th. \$22,500,000 in General Fund savings has already been taken in the Biennial Budget for Fiscal Year 2015. Recommendations contained in the “*Part F Report*” total \$25,635,200 in General Fund savings.

The committee may also consider incorporating LD 1639 “*An Act To Fund Merit and Longevity Pay for Executive, Judicial and Legislative Branch Employees Pursuant to a Collective Bargaining Agreement*” (heard on February 10th); LD 1720 “*An Act To Improve the Operations of the Office of the Attorney General*” (heard by the Judiciary Committee on February 4th); LD 1722 “*An Act To Exempt from Sales and Use Tax Sales of Publications To Be Distributed without Charge and Printed Materials Included in Publications*” (heard by the Taxation Committee on February 3rd); LD 1679 “*An Act To Appropriate Funds for the Ongoing Operation of the Maine Criminal Justice Academy*” (heard by the Criminal Justice Committee on January 27th); and, potentially, other bills referred to various committees.

Appropriations Committee members have access to the written public testimony submitted during the public hearings on all of the bills to be considered in conjunction with the supplemental budgets. If you wish to make additional comments regarding the “Part F” Report or any of the other bills listed above, you may do so by:

- Filling out a “Comment Sheet” and putting it in the specially marked box located at the table outside the AFA Committee room during the hearings;
- Sending an e-mail to marianne.macmaster@legislature.maine.gov and she will forward your comments to the committee members;
- Or mailing your comments to: AFA Committee, 5 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333

Persons with special needs who wish to attend the public comment period and require accommodations should notify the Legislative Information Office as soon as possible: 207-287-1692, TTY 207-287-6826, FAX 207-287-1580, webmaster_lio@legislature.maine.gov.

Please contact Marianne MacMaster at (207)287-1635 or by e-mail if you have any questions, would like to be added to the Appropriations Committee “Interested Parties” e-mail list or would like more information on testifying before the Appropriations Committee.

Thank you for your interest and participation