

OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT & BUDGET

State Budget Office

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MEMORANDUM

To:

The Honorable Daniel J. McKee, Governor

From:

Joseph Codega Jr., Budget Officer

Date:

August 19, 2024

Subject:

Reappropriations to FY 2025

This memorandum summarizes the recommended reappropriations from FY 2024 to FY 2025. The authority for reappropriation of unexpended balances is contained in RIGL § 35-3-15 as follows:

§ 35-3-15. Unexpended and unencumbered balances of revenue appropriations.

- (a) All unexpended or unencumbered balances of general revenue appropriations, whether regular or special appropriations, at the end of any fiscal year, shall revert to the surplus account in the general fund, and may be reappropriated by the governor to the ensuing fiscal year and made immediately available for the same purposes as the former appropriations; provided, that the disposition of unexpended or unencumbered appropriations for the general assembly and legislative agencies shall be determined by the joint committee on legislative affairs, and written notification given thereof to the state controller within twenty (20) days after the end of the fiscal year; and furthermore that the disposition of unexpended or unencumbered appropriations for the judiciary, shall be determined by the state court administrator, and written notification given thereof to the state controller within twenty (20) days after the end of the fiscal year.
- (b) The governor shall submit a report of such reappropriations to the chairperson of the house finance committee and the chairperson of the senate finance committee of each reappropriation stating the general revenue reappropriation, the unexpended or unencumbered balance, the amount reappropriated, and an explanation of the reappropriation and the reason for the reappropriation by August 20 of each year.

The following recommendations are based upon the current expenditure data from the State's RIFANS accounting system, which is still subject to change by the State Controller. If any changes occur that affect the ability to recommend a reappropriation, I will provide an amendment to this letter.

As of this date, I recommend \$9,375,757 in reappropriations for the General Assembly and \$3,949,659 for the Judiciary (as required by statute as shown above), and \$16,620,517 in other discretionary reappropriations. These discretionary reappropriations are explained in the body of this memorandum. Based upon expenditure data from the State's RIFANS accounting system as of August 19, 2024, unexpended general revenue appropriations total \$78,093,366, although as noted above, further adjustments and payables may be processed by the State Controller that would change this balance. The reappropriations recommended herein will reduce the general fund ending balance by \$29,945,933, with the remaining balance of unexpended appropriations either utilized for other non-discretionary general revenue reappropriations pursuant to Article 13, Section 1 of the FY 2025 Appropriations Act or lapsing to surplus.

Discretionary Reappropriations: The Budget Office recommends \$16,620,517 of discretionary reappropriations for the following departments and agencies for the purposes described below.

Department of Administration

Departmental General Revenue Balance:

\$6,293,847

A total reappropriation of \$56,413 is recommended for the Department of Administration for the financing of personnel costs related to four positions that incurred increased compensation as a result of a public hearing. Retroactive payments for these positions could not be fully processed before the end of FY 2024.

Department of Labor and Training

Departmental General Revenue Balance:

\$3,893,027

A total reappropriation of \$3,893,027 is recommended for the Department of Labor and Training, consisting of (1) \$287,919 for obligated but unexpended financing for enhanced training for direct care and support services staff at nursing facilities; and (2) \$3,605,108 in unexpended FY 2024 appropriations for Skills for Rhode Island's Future ("Skills RI"). The FY 2024 enacted budget contained \$4.0 million for partnerships with Rhode Island healthcare systems to facilitate the outreach, recruitment, screening, placement, onboarding, supportive services, training curriculum assistance, and outcome reporting of medical personnel to address the heightened need for healthcare services in the state.

Rhode Island Ethics Commission

Departmental General Revenue Balance:

\$133,900

A total reappropriation of \$48,904 is recommended for the Rhode Island Ethics commission for the continued implementation of a new case management system. The project's FY 2024 funding was not fully expended due to ongoing system development in collaboration with the Department of Administration, Division of Enterprise Technology and Strategy Services (ETSS).

Department of Human Services

Departmental General Revenue Balance:

\$15,661,421

A total reappropriation of \$9,598,365 is recommended for the Department of Human Services, consisting of (1) \$70,833 for transitioning the Child Support Services' RIKidsBridge case management system off the mainframe platform which was prevented from proceeding as scheduled in FY 2024 due to vendor hiring delays; (2) \$8,311,980 for the SNAP Eat Well, Be Well pilot program that experienced implementation delays preventing full expenditure of the FY 2024 before the close of the fiscal year; (3) \$30,495 for delayed invoices from vendors at the Office of Healthy Aging, and (4) \$1,185,057 for capital and equipment costs related to reorganizing department field offices including renovations at the Shepard Building.

Governor's Commission on Disabilities

Departmental General Revenue Balance:

\$849,901

A total reappropriation of \$90,000 is recommended for the Governor's Commission on Disabilities for outreach grants to organizations serving underserved communities, due to a delay in the awarding of grant applicants before the close of the fiscal year.

Department of Attorney General

Departmental General Revenue Balance:

\$336,545

A total reappropriation of \$11,813 is recommended for the Department of the Attorney General, consisting of outstanding contractual obligations to expert witnesses.

Department of Corrections

Departmental General Revenue Balance:

\$12,352,959

A total reappropriation of \$1,298,220 is recommended for the Department of Corrections, consisting of (1) \$638,840 in unexpended FY 2024 appropriations for critical healthcare workforce incentives addressing staffing shortages, including Pathways Training, equipment allowances, and mentoring and recruitment bonuses. Expenditure of enacted FY 2024 financing has been delayed to FY 2025 as the Department continues to implement final program planning for this initiative; (2) \$235,245 for delayed disbursements of retroactive cost of living adjustments for certain employees; and (3) \$424,135 to defray various invoices received from vendors after the FY 2024 invoice processing deadline.

Department of Public Safety

Departmental General Revenue Balance:

\$5,788,586

A total reappropriation of \$1,597,920 is recommended for the Department of Public Safety, including \$1,204,538 for various items ordered in FY 2024 but delayed due to supply chain and/or procurement delays within the State Police program, including graduating troopers' equipment, vehicle lighting packages, communications software, radio tower repairs, and patrol unit diving equipment. Also included is \$100,000 for a feasibility study regarding State Police coverage requirements on Aquidneck Island. Additionally, \$293,382 for the Division of

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Sheriffs is recommended to defray costs associated with the delayed delivery/invoicing of a new prisoner transport bus and various equipment orders not received as of June 30, 2024.

Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency

Departmental General Revenue Balance:

\$1,998,122

A total reappropriation of \$25,855 is recommended for the Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency to allow for the continuance of state matching funds for "Individual Assistance" FEMA claims related to three storm incidents in FY 2024.

Approved for Reappropriation:

Daniel J. McKee, Governor Dated: August 19, 2024

cc:

Dorothy Pascale, State Controller Hon. Marvin L. Abney, Chairman, House Finance Committee Hon. Louis P. DiPalma, Chairman, Senate Finance Committee Sharon Reynolds Ferland, House Fiscal Advisor Stephen Whitney, Senate Fiscal Advisor