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State of Maine
 ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE
 COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

TO: Senator Dawn Hill, Senate Chair
 Representative Margaret Rotundo, House Chair
 Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

FROM: Sen. John J. Cleveland, Senate Chair
 Rep. Barry J. Hobbins, House Chair
 Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology

RE: LR 1045: Governor's FY13 Emergency Supplemental Budget

DATE: January 31, 2013

Pursuant to Joint Rule 314, our committee has reviewed the supplemental budget initiatives relating to the committee's subject matter jurisdiction. The following is a summary of our recommendations:

EMT (Sec. A-17) **Unanimous** (13 votes) OTP in

PUC (Sec. A-38) **Majority Report** (10 votes) OTPA in,
Minority Report (1 vote) OTPA in,
 2 absent.

The committee fully supports that Efficiency Maine Trust appropriation and allocation (Sect. A-17) as is.

Regarding the Public Utilities Commission appropriation and allocations in the Emergency Service Communications Bureau account 0994, the committee is in agreement with the \$100,000 curtailment. However, as the commission testified before the Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee, there has been a delay in the execution of the contract for the transition from the E-9-1-1 system to the NG E-9-1-1 system. Rep. Carey asked how this delay will affect this budget and future budgets.

The committee is concerned that the approximately \$3.6 million remaining allocation for this purpose may not be used by the end of the fiscal year and will lapse. If this happens, the commission could lose significant funding necessary to ensure uninterrupted E-9-1-1 services.

The committee recommends that the budget be amended to secure those funds going into the 2013-14 fiscal year. However the committee differs on the best mechanism to do this. The majority report recommends an amendment to include a carry forward provision to ensure that the funds are available for the full length of the contract, such as:

Majority Report Recommended Language (Sec. A-38)

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any unexpended balances in the Emergency Services Communication Bureau program, General Fund account at the close of fiscal year 2012-13 may not lapse but must be carried forward in fiscal year 2013-14 to be used for the purposes originally intended in PL 2011, Chapter 657, Part A.

The minority report recommends that the funds be transferred from the General Fund to the appropriate E-9-1-1 Fund at the commission and that if any funds remain at the end of the fiscal year 2013-2014, that the funds then be transferred back to the General Fund. The following language could meet that purpose:

Minority Report Recommended Language (Sec. A-38)

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the State Controller shall transfer from the Emergency Services Communication Bureau program, General Fund account on the effective date of the Act any remaining unexpended balances to the Emergency Services Communication Bureau program, Other Special Revenue Fund account to cover costs incurred as a result of the need to operate 2 systems concurrently for a period of time as E-9-1-1 operations transition between the 2 systems. At the close of fiscal year 2013-14, the Public Utilities Commission shall certify to the State Controller the amount of the unexpended funds transferred pursuant to this section. The State Controller shall transfer the certified amount to the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund.

The Public Utilities Commission has assured us that the requirements of the contract that use this allocation and appropriation will be fully executed by June 30, 2014.

The committee's vote sheets on these budget initiatives are attached.

Thank you for your consideration of our recommendations. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sec. A-17. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

EFFICIENCY MAINE TRUST

Efficiency Maine Trust Z100

Initiative: Provides funding and adjusts the transfer amount to more accurately reflect the transfers needed to cover activities for a position in the Governor's Energy Office.

Ref. #: 205

One Time

Committee Vote:

Unan - in
(13-0)

AFA Vote: _____

	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS			
All Other	\$111,613	\$0	\$0
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$111,613	\$0	\$0

EFFICIENCY MAINE TRUST

	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
DEPARTMENT TOTALS			
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	\$111,613	\$0	\$0
DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$111,613	\$0	\$0

Sec. A-38. Appropriations and allocations.

The following appropriations and allocations are made.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Emergency Services Communication Bureau 0994

Initiative: Reduces funding designated for transition of E-9-1-1 to NG-9-1-1. This initiative relates to curtailment of allotments.

Div. Rpt.

Ref. #: 454

One Time

Committee Vote: _____

AFA Vote: _____

GENERAL FUND

All Other

GENERAL FUND TOTAL

*(10) Maj. in w/ amendment
(1) Min in w/ diff
Amend.
2 absent.*

	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
	(\$100,000)	\$0	\$0
	(\$100,000)	\$0	\$0

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

DEPARTMENT TOTALS

GENERAL FUND

DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS

	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
	(\$100,000)	\$0	\$0
	(\$100,000)	\$0	\$0