

Governor's Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery
(GOFERR) Legislative Advisory Board

Wednesday, April 29, 2020
1:00 PM

Call in info:

- Dial the call in number: 1-800-356-8278
- Enter the 6-digit conference code: 389388
- Open – Reading of GOFERR 91-A compliant guidance
- Roll Call

Discuss:

- Next Steps
 - Senator Morse's CARES Act Allocation Proposal
 - Joint Legislative Advisory Board and Stakeholder Advisory Board meeting
- Wrap Up
- Next Scheduled Meeting
- Follow-up Items

Roll Call:

- Jerry Little, Director in the GOFERR Office in Concord with Rhonda Hensley, Kate Spiner and Wendy Gilman
- President Donna Soucy, home in Manchester, alone.
- Speaker Steve Shurtleff – home in Penacook, alone.
- Leader Chuck Morse, office in Atkinson, alone.
- Leader Dick Hinch, office in Merrimack, alone.
- Senator Lou D'Allesandro, in kitchen at home in Manchester, alone.
- Representative Mary Jane Wallner, home in Concord, alone.
- Senator John Reagan, office alone.
- Representative Erin Hennessey, home in Littleton with 2 minor children.

Senator Morse's CARES Act Allocation Proposal

Senator Morse presented the Legislative Advisory Committee CARES Act Allocation Proposal for discussion, a categorized list with intended use and areas of study. Under the Unemployment Trust Fund Short Fall category, Reimburse the Trust Fund for all allowable costs not otherwise covered through federal action, with the goal of preventing increased employer rates or the need to take federal loans. Senator D'Allesandro spoke to the category and for keeping some monies in reserve to help with any unknowns of the pandemic. The \$600 bonus for unemployment coming from the national level is causing some workers not to want to go back

to work because they make more money on unemployment than they do at their job. Added to list are: farmers, post-secondary education, elementary schools, and broadband.

Other comments included: support for replenishing the trust fund; what other Federal resources are available to each of the categories listed and what have they already received; as well as the need for NH Unemployment to upgrade their computer technology.

There was some discussion around the Healthcare System Relief Fund: what has already been spent from the fund, and who got the money. There are some reports from hospitals that they have applied but still haven't heard back from the department. Director Little referred to the GOFERR website where information on that fund is posted.

The State Government: discussion revolved about expenses state government incurred on the account of the COVID virus such as the cleaning of the State House and LOB and where the funding is coming from for that and paying back Dean Kamen to the PPE. Local and County Governments: Director Little told the Advisory Board that Governor Sununu will be announcing at his press conference at 3:00 PM a distribution of funds to municipalities and counties.

Child Care Providers: Representative Wallner spoke to the urgency of assisting child care providers so the parents will be able to return to the workforce. The Advisory Board expressed interest in using existing delivery systems already in place to distribute funds for Business Relief Funding and nonprofits. Agriculture: Commissioner Jasper has represented that the dairy industry is in immediate peril. Without some sign of assistance from the state, some farmers may not put corn in the field to feed a herd for the winter.

Post-secondary Education (universities, community colleges and private colleges): Discussion centered around refunds to students for room and board; ability to, or if, they open in the fall and what that would even look like; scholarships and what federal aid the education entities have already gotten. Public School Recovery would be to provide summer programming/educational opportunities for students who haven't had much interaction due to remote learning.

Next Scheduled Meeting

May 6th at 1:00 PM.

Follow-up Items

There is a request for additional information on the Healthcare System Relief Fund and how many applications are in process. Another request is for more information on the amount of Federal funding already received for the post-secondary providers.

Adjourn – 2:55 PM