



State of New Hampshire
Governor's Office
FOR
EMERGENCY RELIEF AND RECOVERY
(GOFERR)
LEGISLATIVE ADVISORY BOARD

PUBLIC MEETING

Wednesday, JULY 1, 2020

1:00 p.m.

in

One Eagle Square

Concord, NH 03301

Legislative Advisory Board Members:

SENATOR	Senator Lou D'Allesandro
SENATE PRESIDENT	Donna Soucy
SENATE LEADER	Senator Chuck Morse
SENATOR	John Reagan
SPEAKER	Steve Shurtleff
HOUSE LEADER	Rep. Dick Hinch
CHAIRWOMAN	Maryjane Wallner
REPRESENTATIVE	Erin Hennessey

AGENDA

- Call to Order - Reading of Public Meeting Statement
- Attendance
- Presentations on:
 - 1:10 PM - 1:30 PM - Todd Leach, Chancellor USNH, and Susan Huard, Interim
 - Chancellor CCSNH o 1:30 PM - 1:50 PM - Sarah Mattson-Duston, Executive Director, NH Legal Assistance o 1:50 PM - 2:10 PM - Steve Ahnen, President, NH Hospital Association.
- Discussion on:
 - Summer Camps
- Next Scheduled Meeting - Wednesday, July 29th 1 pm
- Adjourn

1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 * * * * *

3 JERRY LITTLE: The GOFERR Legislative Advisory was
4 created by Executive Order #2020-06. That order is publicly
5 available on the Governor's website.

6 Today's meeting is an official meeting of the
7 Board. It is open to the public and will be run in a manner
8 compliant with RSA 91-A.

9 Today's meeting is also being recorded, as was
10 mentioned. Should you be a speaking participant and not
11 wish to be recorded, you may disconnect now or at any time.
12 The recording from today's meeting will be transcribed and
13 posted on the GOFERR webpage.

14 JERRY LITTLE: As stated, my name is Jerry Little.
15 I am Director of the Governor's Office for Emergency Relief
16 and Recovery, and I will be facilitating today's meeting.

17 Because the Board is meeting by phone, under RSA
18 91-A, there are some initial logistics that we need to
19 establish. First, each of us must state our names, where we
20 are located, and who is in the room with us during the call.
21 We'll do that with this roll call like this:

22 I am Jerry Little, Director of the GOFERR, in the

1 GOFERR office at One Eagle Square in Concord, and with me is
2 Rhonda Hensley from the GOFERR staff, and I'll just notify
3 you that at some point in time, I expect Lisa English also
4 from the GOFERR staff to join me here. Senate President
5 Donna Soucy, are you with us?

6 Maybe *5 Senator, or you may be on mute.

7 JERRY LITTLE: Moving on, House Speaker Steve
8 Shurtleff?

9 STEVE SHURTLEFF: Yes, thank you Commissioner.
10 Steve Shurtleff, I'm in my residence in Penacook, and I am
11 alone.

12 JERRY LITTLE: Thank you, thank you. Senate
13 Republican Leader Chuck Morse?

14 CHUCK MORSE: Chuck Morse. I'm in my office in
15 Atkinson, and I am alone.

16 JERRY LITTLE: Thank you. House Republican Leader
17 Dick Hinch?

18 DICK HINCH: This is Dick Hinch. I am in my
19 office in Merrimac, and I am alone.

20 JERRY LITTLE: Chairman Lou D'Allesandro? Senator
21 D'Allesandro?

22 LOU D'ALLESSANDRO: I'm at my home office, all

1 alone.

2 LOU D'ALLESSANDRO: Thank you, Senator.

3 Representative Mary Jane Wallner?

4 MARY JANE WALLNER: This is Mary Jane Wallner, and
5 I'm at my home in Concord, New Hampshire, and I am alone.

6 JERRY LITTLE: Thank you. Senator John Reagan?

7 JOHN REAGAN: John Reagan, I'm in my home office,
8 alone.

9 JERRY LITTLE: Representative Erin Hennessey?

10 ERIN HENNESSEY: Good afternoon, Erin Hennessey.
11 I'm in my mobile office currently in Bethlehem. No one is
12 in the car with me.

13 JERRY LITTLE: Thank you. Senate President Donna
14 Soucy? Senator Soucy?

15 DONNA SOUCY: Yes, yes. This is Donna Soucy. I
16 am in Concord at my law office, and I am alone.

17 JERRY LITTLE: Thank you very much. As we move
18 through our agenda today, each Board member and anyone else
19 speaking is asked to identify themselves before speaking.
20 Should you choose to take any votes today, they must be done
21 by the roll call method we just used.

22 And finally, before we begin today's

1 presentations, please remember to use 5* if you would like
2 to ask a question.

3 In addition, presenters are also asked to hit 5*
4 when their turn comes up, because that allows us to unmute
5 your line.

6 The last time we met, which was Wednesday, June
7 24, you asked to hear updated presentations from the
8 University System of New Hampshire and the Community College
9 System of New Hampshire, the New Hampshire Legal Assistance
10 and the New Hampshire Hospital Association.

11 You've received presentation materials and updates
12 that GOFERR has received. They would have been sent to you
13 by Rhonda Hensley. If not, please let us know and we will
14 forward them to you now.

15 We also sent out an agenda, and you can see from
16 that that we are going to start today's presentations with
17 Todd Leach, Chancellor of the University System of New
18 Hampshire; and Susan Huard, Interim Chancellor of the
19 Community College System.

20 Chancellor Leach, are you with us this morning -
21 or this afternoon, pardon me?

22 TODD LEACH: Yes, good afternoon, I'm here, Todd,

1 Leach, and I'm in my residence in Bow, New Hampshire, by
2 myself.

3 JERRY LITTLE: Very good. And Interim Chancellor
4 Hewitt, are you with us?

5 INTERIM CHANCELLOR SUSAN HUARD: Yes, I am, I'm
6 Susan Huard. I am in the college office on the NHTI campus,
7 and with me is our Chief Operating Officer, Charles Ansell.

8 JERRY LITTLE: Very good. Thank you all.
9 Chancellor Leach, would you like to start off this segment?

10 TODD LEACH: Yes, thank you. And also, Cathy
11 Provencher is standing by on the phone to be available for
12 any specifics that we'd like to answer further. But let me
13 just start by thanking the group for having us come back and
14 update you on expenses and plans.

15 At this point, the university system, I think as
16 everybody knows, was hit very hard in the spring semester,
17 as we refunded \$42 million dollars to students for room and
18 board and other fees.

19 And we have probably experienced a loss of revenue
20 somewhere around \$10 million dollars this summer in the
21 summer programs that we have canceled, that we would have
22 otherwise run.

1 And as we're looking at preparing for the coming
2 semester, I think we have several categories of costs that
3 would be enormously impactful for us. One is just the
4 anticipation of lost revenues from having low density
5 dormitories, having some dips on enrollment, and having put
6 more money into financial aid to help students and families
7 that have economic challenges.

8 So we're looking at a revenue impact of somewhere
9 between 20 million and upwards of \$100 million dollars, as
10 we head into next year.

11 But we really wanted to speak to the committee
12 about what I would call really hard costs that we have.
13 They're not lost revenue assigned; they are direct, out of
14 pocket expenses that we're having to spend in order to
15 ensure an opening in the fall.

16 And I think it's tremendously important for our
17 students, but for the state as well that we have a safe
18 opening, if it's at all possible and feasible. And to do
19 that, we are expending quite a bit of dollars on
20 presentation.

21 I sent earlier a breakdown of some of the costs.
22 But, you know, looking at a total cost for the coming year

1 in terms of those hard out of pocket, very COVID-specific
2 expenses that we would have not otherwise spent of \$28
3 million dollars, and that includes tests, PPE, cleaning --
4 increased cleaning levels -- and contact tracing efforts
5 that we're building in a plan for.

6 We've had to contract with PPE providers. We are
7 contracting the test providers to ensure that we have things
8 in place, and that we can have that reopened.

9 But that hard cost piece of what we're preparing
10 for is costing us \$28 million dollars. About \$19 million of
11 that will be spent before December 30. And so, we are
12 looking for as much help as we can get with that.

13 We know that the state won't be able to cover our
14 revenue losses, and the reimbursements that we had to make
15 to students. But we really need the state's help as much as
16 possible to cover those out of pocket expenses to try to
17 open their doors.

18 I will say that we're very appreciative of the \$10
19 million dollars we already received; that was critical for
20 us to prepare the ability to offer remote courses. And those
21 remote courses will be offered, even if we have students
22 back on campus.

1 We know there will be students who aren't
2 comfortable; there will be instructors who will also want to
3 teach from a distance.

4 And in the event that we have to send students
5 home, as we did this past semester, we have to really be
6 ready for that. So that \$10 million that we spent
7 outfitting our classrooms over the summer with new
8 technology, with training faculty -- all that, was extremely
9 helpful.

10 So as we look at our most urgent needs now, we're
11 just around this \$28 million.

12 The other thing that I would just add in here is
13 that in addition to it obviously being an impact for the
14 university system in terms of our budget, this is extremely
15 important for the state.

16 We need to be part of the state's rebound. We
17 have to be an important economic lever for the state, and we
18 can't do that if we're really in a financial position that
19 severely hurts our ability to support workforce needs and
20 other needs that the state will have.

21 If we're open, in terms of having students on
22 campus, it has an enormous impact on local economies and the

1 state economy as a whole. About half of our students come
2 from out of state; they're a really important part of the
3 economy -- part of the \$2 billion-dollar a year impact we
4 have.

5 And if we're hard hit for even one year, it will
6 have several years of impact, as those students pipe (sic)
7 through, you know, four years' worth of college education.
8 It will make a very big difference if we're really
9 substantially hurt in one of those years in carrying those
10 classes through.

11 And the last thing I'd like to just say, and I'm
12 happy to answer any questions, is that if this crisis should
13 get worse, if the pandemic returns at levels where the state
14 is having to really focus on addressing a larger COVID
15 health need, that the University System also needs to be
16 prepared to be a partner in that.

17 And part of what we are putting some of our
18 investment in is trying to build testing capacity at UNH.
19 And that testing capacity is expected to allow us to process
20 as many as 2000 tests per day. That's an enormous strength
21 to what the state currently has the ability to do.

22 And ideally, we're hoping that we have 30,000

1 people back in our campuses in the fall, and we're maxing
2 that capacity out. But, you know, worst case scenario, that
3 capacity will be there to support the state.

4 JERRY LITTLE: Thank you, Chancellor Leach. Are
5 there questions from the Legislative Advisory Board for
6 Chancellor Leach? I don't see any, but if you could --
7 Senator D'Allesandro, yes, I see your hand. Thank you.

8 SENATOR D'ALLESANDRO: Thank you, Jerry. I think
9 the Chancellor has articulated the need for the \$10 million
10 dollars graphically, and I think we have received
11 information from the Treasurer, Catherine Provencher, which
12 supports this.

13 So I would move at this time that we grant the \$10
14 million -- we ask that the Governor grant the \$10 million
15 dollars to the University System.

16 JERRY LITTLE: Speaker Shurtleff?

17 STEVE SHURTLEFF: Thank you. I second Senator
18 D'Allesandro's motion.

19 JERRY LITTLE: Very good. So this, I believe, was
20 a motion from the last meeting that we held on last week, is
21 my memory correct on that, Senator D'Allesandro, that --

22 SENATOR D'ALLESANDRO: That's correct. The motion

1 was \$10 million for the university.

2 The second phase of that was the \$5 million for
3 the community colleagues, but we haven't heard from them.
4 But I'd like to move the \$10 million for the University
5 System.

6 JERRY LITTLE: Thank you. Any further questions
7 or comments about that? Would you like to move on to hear
8 from Interim Chancellor Huard about the Community College
9 System and approach these as a group, or shall we take them
10 one at a time?

11 STEVE SHURTLEFF: I think that it's at the
12 discretion of the Chair. I'd just assume we'd take them one
13 at a time.

14 SENATOR MORSE: Yeah, Jerry, I think we should
15 take them one at a time, because we probably have three or
16 four today.

17 JERRY LITTLE: Very good. Thank you, Senator
18 Morse, Chairman Morse. So a second motion is to recommend
19 to the Governor \$10 million dollars to the University System
20 of New Hampshire for CARES Act related expenses. Any
21 further discussion?

22 Representative Wallner?

1 [Pause]

2 You may be on mute, Representative Wallner. 5*.

3 MARY JANE WALLNER: I'm sorry, I didn't think -- I
4 didn't hear you call my name. I guess I'm reading this and
5 I'm wondering how -- what have we allocated to the
6 university previously?

7 JERRY LITTLE: We have previously allocated \$10
8 million dollars. This would be an additional \$10 million
9 dollars.

10 MARY JANE WALLNER: And additional \$10 million?
11 And this is to be used for the COVID-related expenses that
12 the Chancellor has been describing to us? Is that correct?

13 JERRY LITTLE: I believe that's the case.
14 Chancellor Leach, would you like to respond to that
15 question?

16 TODD LEACH: Yes. That is absolutely correct.
17 It's very specific to the COVID-related expenses.

18 JERRY LITTLE: Further questions?

19 MARY JANE WALLNER: I just have -- I guess I want
20 to -- I have a concern about it in that I certainly support
21 \$10 million, but I'm wondering, it looks like between now
22 and the end of the year, they're going to need \$19 million -

1 - a total for about \$28 million.

2 And I'm wondering if actually we could consider a
3 higher number from the university. I think it's really
4 important that the university be ready to accept their
5 students back, and I don't see how they can do it, unless
6 there's funding available for all of these expenses.

7 So I'll just put that as a point for people to
8 think about. I don't know if they're going to go now, or if
9 we're going to hold on this one until the end.

10 But I personally would support a higher number.

11 JERRY LITTLE: Senator Morse, do you have a
12 question, sir?

13 SENATOR MORSE: Yeah. I think, like, with any of
14 the votes that we're doing, I mean it's pretty obvious --
15 probably on the next discussion after the University System
16 and the Community College System -- the Governor's going
17 forward with what he's hearing from groups like ours
18 already.

19 So I think it's more of us saying, you know,
20 sending the message that we think we should support the
21 University System. They're going to determine the number in
22 the Governor's Office what it's going to be.

1 So I think it's more of we believe we should add
2 some money to the University System -- a number, and I
3 support the \$10 million. You know, the whole document that
4 came last time from the Chancellor is certainly bigger than
5 even the \$20 million we're talking about in total.

6 So I think that that will get worked out between
7 the University System and the Governor's Office.

8 JERRY LITTLE: Any additional questions or
9 comments? Seeing none, we have a motion in a second to make
10 a recommendation to the Governor to add \$10 million dollars
11 to CARES Act funding for the University System of New
12 Hampshire, and we will go through the roll call at this
13 point.

14 Senate President Donna Soucy?

15 DONNA SOUCY: Yes.

16 JERRY LITTLE: Speaker Steve Shurtleff? Speaker
17 Shurtleff?

18 STEVE SHURTLEFF: Yes.

19 JERRY LITTLE: Senator Morse?

20 SENATOR MORSE: Yes, yes.

21 JERRY LITTLE: Representative Hinch?

22 DICK HINCH: Dick Hinch, yes.

1 JERRY LITTLE: Senator D'Allesandro?

2 CHAIRMAN D'ALLESSANDRO: Yes.

3 JERRY LITTLE: Representative Wallner?

4 CHAIRWOMAN WALLNER: Yes.

5 JERRY LITTLE: Senator Reagan?

6 SENATOR REAGAN: Yes.

7 JERRY LITTLE: And Representative Hennessey?

8 ERIN HENNESSEY: Hennessey votes yes.

9 JERRY LITTLE: That is an eight to nothing vote.

10 That recommendation passes, and that, I believe, completes
11 the conversation about the University System of New
12 Hampshire.

13 So we will move on to Interim Chancellor Huard.

14 Are you on the phone still, Ma'am?

15 INTERIM CHANCELLOR SUSAN HUARD: Yes, I am.

16 JERRY LITTLE: Would you like to tell us about the
17 ongoing needs at the Community College System of New
18 Hampshire?

19 INTERIM CHANCELLOR SUSAN HUARD: Thank you,
20 Commissioner, and good afternoon Legislative. I would be
21 very happy to talk about the ongoing needs of the Community
22 College System.

1 Many of our needs parallel those you've heard from
2 the University System. A couple of key differences for us.
3 One is that our students are primarily commuters, as you all
4 know.

5 So they are in the community and of the community.
6 So testing is not going to be as strong a priority for us as
7 it is for the University's residential campuses.

8 We do have two locations -- Lakes Region and NHTI
9 that do have residential students, and the university has
10 been very gracious, and is sharing the contract that they
11 are setting up with testing entities, so that we too can
12 benefit from those.

13 But our primary work will be on essentially
14 surveying students as they're coming onto campus. We are
15 looking right now at some technology products that will help
16 us do the screening, but we also anticipate having to do
17 some hiring of temporary workers to help support students
18 coming to campus.

19 Our plan at this point, knowing what we know, is
20 that we will have quite a number of classes that happen
21 remotely. But as you all know, one of our strongest
22 features are the applied and lab courses that we do, which

1 we intend to hold on campus.

2 In fact, right now in our summer session, we are
3 at every campus supporting labs that are helping students
4 from the spring to finish out their degrees in things like
5 line worker, automotive technology, medical assisting,
6 license practical nursing, and we're learning what our needs
7 are going to be.

8 Since I've been in this position for just two
9 months, I've asked Mr. Ansell to give you a much greater
10 update on what our needs are. So Mr. Ansell?

11 CHARLES ANSELL: Thank you. I'll be brief and
12 just kind of add some detail to what the Chancellor just
13 walked through.

14 You know, I'll also reiterate what Chancellor
15 Leach said -- that, you know, for us the \$5 million dollars
16 that have been given to us has been a godsend. I mean, that
17 can't be understated.

18 We're building a report of our initial
19 expenditures used for summer classes for the July 15
20 deadline, as per Exhibit C of the GOFERR grant agreement
21 that we signed three weeks ago, and for which we have
22 encumbered funds that we're spending down from dollars

1 subsequently received.

2 Most of the money is going to be spent for the
3 fall semester, and we're finalizing those costs. I'll just
4 quickly itemize the categories of costs associated with our
5 pandemic response. Most of these are assigned for preparing
6 for the fall semester, you know.

7 So first we've got our costs that are associated
8 with social distancing that involve technology, and we
9 pegged that preliminarily at \$3.5 million.

10 We have costs for staffing for maintaining public
11 health and safe learning environments for the fall, which we
12 put as just under \$3-. And then we have costs for
13 supplemental instruction and support associated with the
14 need to have smaller class size, which we put at \$4.5
15 million.

16 These are all extensions of the categories allowed
17 in the grant agreement, based on our first presentation to
18 this committee a couple months ago.

19 And, you know, to that point, typically we do have
20 a presentation or a document that we talk through with you.
21 And on the last call we gave you a nine-page report called,
22 "COVID Impacts Relief Needs for Program Completion and

1 Workforce Training."

2 Today, we're -- you know, really just discussing
3 an extension of that original request. And there are two
4 reasons that these extension numbers are not exact just yet,
5 and they both have to do with the optimizing of the dollars
6 that we receive.

7 First, we are coordinating these costs across all
8 seven of our colleagues into single purchases, which, though
9 they serve different academic programs, different enrollment
10 volumes and different community needs, they require much of
11 the same things.

12 And therefore we're coordinating over the summer
13 to do that sort of volume purchasing and contracting, and
14 we're wrapping this up because we need to stand things up by
15 the fall. But we're making sure that we are taking the time
16 needed to be as cost-effective as possible.

17 Second, we're finalizing the ways to reduce our
18 staffing needs while ensuring that all students and
19 employees are safe.

20 As the Chancellor alluded to, these staffing needs
21 involve not just testing at our two colleges that have dorms
22 and not just contact tracing, but also temperature screening

1 before entry and other processes to comply with state
2 guidelines that we want to automate as much as possible, so
3 we can minimize costs associated with checkpoint screeners
4 and other staff required in a commuter environment -- an
5 environment that has classes that run not just during
6 standard business hours, but that run nights and weekends
7 too.

8 So with all that said, we know that we're spending
9 around \$10.5 million dollars in this endeavor. We've got
10 our relative amounts of 35 percent on tax, 30 percent on
11 public health and safe learning environments, and the
12 remainder on supplemental instruction and support associated
13 with COVID.

14 And we'll have the precise spend-to-date in two
15 weeks, per the parameters of Exhibit C of the grant
16 agreement, and exact numbers for most things by end of July.

17 By way of reminder, our back-to-lab technology
18 costs, just to add a little detail to what Chancellor Huard
19 talked about, this includes software for synchronous
20 learning to enable alternating class schedules and smaller
21 class sizes with the same light experience.

22 This also includes additional computing hardware

1 for students and faculty to close gaps in remote
2 instruction.

3 And it includes specialized software for many of
4 the high-intensity, typically more hands-on in the lab
5 coursework, like in manufacturing, health care and
6 automotive.

7 Second, the staffing and the PPE: We're
8 purchasing thermometers and temperature screeners, doing
9 lots of the dorms cleansing and dedensification effort at
10 two of our colleagues, like Chancellor Leach described that
11 the University System is doing, I think on the prior call.

12 And we're staffing our around the clock custodial
13 function, including for evening and weekend classes. Also
14 we're restocking PPE on everything from N95s to sanitizers
15 to wipes to disposable masks, et cetera.

16 Finally, smaller class sizes in addition to online
17 for those classes that simply cannot be remote, because they
18 are hands-on training students to be the technicians of our
19 state in the middle-skill jobs of various sectors. This
20 demands supplemental instruction hours, as we discussed last
21 time.

22 So, you know, just imagine the welding lab, the IT

1 Security center, the mock ambulance, the dental clinic, the
2 respiratory care setting. We furnish those, and these are
3 hands-on programs we must deliver in person.

4 Our instructors will extend their hours, doing so
5 to accommodate small numbers of students in lab spaces
6 during our socially distant fall semester.

7 Also last time we spoke, we mentioned our requests
8 around tuition assistance. You know, I'll just conclude
9 with that. We need to educate our students safely, and
10 that's what I just -- you know, kind of detailed. But we
11 need them to do that so they can graduate in key sectors
12 that our economy needs right now -- in health care,
13 obviously, but also in IT and in industry and in the
14 sciences.

15 We also estimate that half of our students lost a
16 job. And our focus is steadfast in ensuring that they don't
17 forgo their future.

18 CCSNH, we view ourselves really as -- you know,
19 for lack of a better term -- the first line of attack
20 against high unemployment rates, against prolonged payouts
21 of unemployment assistance -- and again, stalled careers.

22 We partner with the Department of Employment

1 Security and others, to see what that future will look like,
2 and how we can make sure that anyone who's currently
3 unemployed right now, that they can readily enter the new
4 economy that's already starting to emerge. So this in turn
5 can put New Hampshire on the fast track to recovery.

6 I'll just add that, you know our full-time
7 students, they come out of an unemployment rate and they end
8 up, and they'll continue to end up working in the hospitals,
9 classrooms, server closets, mechanical shops and offices
10 throughout the state, regardless of the economic condition.

11 So, you know, with that, you know, we're looking
12 at both those angles, trying to help everybody who's
13 experiencing tremendous loss right now. Because, you know,
14 relief and recovery for our students is the same as relief
15 and recovery for the state.

16 So with that, you know, I think that the
17 Chancellor and I conclude, but, you know, we're obviously
18 open to all questions.

19 JERRY LITTLE: Very good. Thank you, sir. Are
20 there questions for either of the representatives for the
21 Community College System of New Hampshire?

22 [Pause]

1 JERRY LITTLE: Are there any questions?

2 SENATOR MORSE: I would move that we grant, or we
3 recommend \$5 million dollars for the Community College
4 System of New Hampshire, thank them for their very good
5 summary of where the money would be spent, why the money is
6 needed.

7 And I think in the employment sector, they play a
8 very significant role in training people for jobs that are
9 available that need to be filled. And obviously, the
10 workforce makes the world work.

11 Thank you, sir.

12 JERRY LITTLE: Thank you, Senator. Is there a
13 second or a further comment or question?

14 MARY JANE WALLNER: I would second that motion.

15 JERRY LITTLE: I believe that was Senator Soucy?

16 SENATOR SOUCY: Yes, yes, Commissioner.

17 JERRY LITTLE: Seconded by Senator Soucy. Any
18 further conversation? If there are no questions or
19 conversation, we have a motion from Senator D'Allesandro,
20 seconded by Senator Soucy, to recommend the Governor allot
21 \$5 million additional dollars to the Community College
22 System of New Hampshire, and we'll do the roll call.

1 Senate President Soucy?

2 DONNA SOUCY: Yes.

3 JERRY LITTLE: House Steve Shurtleff?

4 STEVE SHURTLEFF: Yes, yes.

5 JERRY LITTLE: Senator Morse?

6 SENATOR MORSE: Yes.

7 JERRY LITTLE: Representative Hinch?

8 DICK HINCH: This is Dick Hinch, yes.

9 JERRY LITTLE: Senator D'Allesandro?

10 SENATOR D'ALLESSANDRO: Yes.

11 JERRY LITTLE: Representative Wallner?

12 REPRESENTATIVE WALLNER: Yes.

13 JERRY LITTLE: Senator Reagan?

14 SENATOR REAGAN: Yes.

15 JERRY LITTLE: Representative Hennessey?

16 ERIN HENNESSEY: Hennessey votes yes.

17 JERRY LITTLE: Thank you all very much. An eight
18 to nothing vote in support of the motion. Thank you
19 everyone from the Community College System of New Hampshire,
20 and from the University System.

21 COLLECTIVE: Thank you very much. We truly
22 appreciate the support of our state. Yeah, thank you.

1 JERRY LITTLE: Onto the next section of our
2 agenda, also during last week's meeting, a request was made
3 -- I believe from Senator D'Allesandro -- I might be --

4 SENATOR D'ALLESANDRO: That's correct, Jerry --

5 JERRY LITTLE: -- that we hear again from New
6 Hampshire Legal Aid. I think the context was in anticipated
7 increases in activity relative to evictions and
8 foreclosures. Sarah Mattson Dustin from NHLA is on the
9 phone I believe. Are you with us, Sarah?

10 SARAH MATTSON DUSTIN: I am here, good afternoon.

11 JERRY LITTLE: Good afternoon. Thank you for
12 joining us. Senator D'Allesandro, would you like to start
13 this segment?

14 SENATOR D'ALLESANDRO: Yes, thank you, Jerry. I
15 think we know that the moratorium on rents is over as of
16 today, and I'm sure that there will be a great deal of
17 activity.

18 In the district that I represent, there are
19 tremendous number of renters -- renters in the large
20 apartment-type buildings.

21 And so, I think many of these people have lost
22 their jobs and they've been living on unemployment and the

1 subsidy. Some of them are trying to get back to work, but
2 they now have to work out something with regard to payments.

3 And the landlords have been helpful in many
4 instances, but there are going to be challenges. And I
5 think those challenges will result in people needing
6 representation.

7 And Legal Assistance has been the best effort that
8 I know of to defend these people, or to aid these people and
9 counsel these individuals. And as a result, I've made a
10 suggestion that we come up with a pot of money to defend
11 people who need our help.

12 And I've talked with Sarah about this. I
13 suggested a number between the \$300- I suggested a number
14 between the \$3- and \$400,000 dollar range, that may or may
15 not fit what her desires are, given that this money has to
16 be spent quickly by the end of the calendar year. And
17 obviously, that's something that she can articulate as she
18 speaks.

19 But I think it's incumbent upon us we presented
20 the moratorium. The Governor presented that I think it was
21 wise to do that, but it's off now, and it's time to pay the
22 piper.

1 So with that, Jerry, I would hope that we could
2 hear from Sarah, and then I could make a motion to support
3 the premise that we give some money -- we recommend to the
4 Governor that he put forth some money for this purpose.
5 Thank you.

6 JERRY LITTLE: Thank you, Senator D'Allesandro.
7 Sarah, what would you like the Committee to hear?

8 SARAH MATTSON DUSTIN: Well, thank you very much,
9 Senator D'Allesandro, for that kind introduction and good
10 afternoon to all the members of the Legislative Advisory
11 Board. Thank you very much for the opportunity to speak
12 with you again.

13 My name is Sarah Mattson Dustin, I am at my home
14 in [00:34:03 indiscernible proper name] I am hoping that I
15 will remain alone, and not have any breaches by my young
16 children, who are around somewhere.

17 I'm the Executive Director at New Hampshire Legal
18 Assistance. We are a non-profit law firm. We provide
19 civil, legal aid, working with low-income people on civil,
20 legal issues that affect our basic needs like safety,
21 shelter and economic security.

22 And I know you've received written testimony from

1 May 18 and had the opportunity to hear from me on that
2 basis, so I certainly don't want to repeat all of that.

3 I will share that housing historically has been
4 and remains our biggest practice area at New Hampshire Legal
5 Assistance. We focus on preventing homelessness.

6 The rationale for the prioritization of the
7 housing work is that housing is really the foundation of
8 stability for the low-income families with whom we work.

9 Across human services disciplines now, you'll hear
10 the mantra of "Housing First" because we know that it's hard
11 for people to recover from substance use disorders if they
12 don't have housing stability. It's hard for people to
13 maintain security from domestic violence if they don't have
14 safe and affordable housing.

15 So it touches all of the other work that we do,
16 and the work that many of our partner agencies around the
17 state do. So that's why it's been such a top priority.

18 We've seen during the pandemic that housing is
19 really an essential public health strategy. Keeping people
20 in their homes is one of the best ways to keep people at
21 home, where they're safest.

22 We are expecting a surge in need for help with

1 evictions, particularly.

2 I do want to say that we really applaud the steps
3 that the Governor and GOFERR have taken, including the
4 eviction moratorium and the Housing Relief Fund. Those were
5 widely supported by housing advocates, including NHLA, and
6 we think that they've proven to be smart strategies for
7 keeping people housed during this crisis.

8 We're now in a transition phase. The eviction
9 moratorium is ending, the Housing Relief Fund is just coming
10 online, but eventually will run out. So we're expecting to
11 see a pretty sustained surge of eviction, and over the next
12 several months.

13 And I think that's probably going to happen in a
14 couple of different ways. There are some people who may be
15 able to bridge a gap through the Housing Relief Fund, and
16 then simply be back on their feet, back to work and able to
17 stay housed. It's exactly how that program is intended to
18 work.

19 There may be other people for whom the Housing
20 Relief Fund is not going to provide that kind of long-term
21 stability; people who are not finding that they have jobs to
22 go back to.

1 People also face evictions for reasons other than
2 the nonpayment of rent. There have been some very narrow
3 limits to the eviction moratoriums, but now with that
4 moratorium setting, those kinds of evictions based on
5 behavior will be able to move forward as well.

6 So we don't think that this is probably going to
7 spike in one day. We think it's going to be kind of a slow-
8 moving wave.

9 And what we would ask you to consider recommending
10 to the Governor is a grant of \$128,000. I know that's a
11 smaller number than Senator D'Allesandro suggested, and we
12 really appreciate that he's brought this issue forward
13 today.

14 What we would do with that funding is hire
15 temporary staff to work with tenants and homeowners. Often,
16 the work that we do in the mortgage foreclosure context or
17 the landlord-tenant context is actually not litigation.

18 The first thing that we always try to do is find a
19 way for a tenant and a landlord or a homeowner and a bank to
20 work out an agreement that leaves everyone made as close to
21 whole as they can be while making sure that an individual or
22 a family can keep their housing.

1 So we're prepared to help people in court or in
2 other settings if necessary, but we really do try to have a
3 holistic strategy.

4 We have also aside from the Nonprofit Relief Fund,
5 and thank you very much for providing that pot of money for
6 our New Hampshire non-profits -- if we were to receive
7 direct funding from GOFERR to support these temporary
8 positions focused on housing loss, we would reduce our
9 request for the Nonprofit Relief Fund correspondingly.
10 We're definitely not looking to double dip here.

11 So I'm really happy to answer any questions that
12 you have about any delay, about our housing work or about
13 the specific request, and I really thank you again for the
14 opportunity to speak with you.

15 JERRY LITTLE: Thank you very much, Sarah.
16 Representative Hinch, do you have a question, sir?

17 DICK HINCH: Yes, thank you. So I'm sure, as
18 everyone is aware, that yesterday the Governor allocated \$35
19 million dollars, of which \$20 million dollars will be
20 initially expended and \$15 will, you know, be held in
21 reserve for rent stabilization and housing support.

22 And so, I'm interested to hear why we should not

1 at least see how that \$35 million travels before we expend
2 more monies? Thank you.

3 SARAH MATTSON DUSTIN: Sure, so that a -- I think
4 that's a great question, and if I'm understanding correctly,
5 we're talking about the Housing Relief Fund administered by
6 the [00:39:44 indiscernible proper name]

7 DICK HINCH: Yeah, that's --

8 SARAH MATTSON DUSTIN: Okay.

9 DICK HINCH: The Housing Relief Program, yes.

10 SARAH MATTSON DUSTIN: So I think that's a great
11 point. The work that we provide is really different than
12 that Housing Relief Fund.

13 We're coordinating really closely with the
14 [00:40:02 same indiscernible proper name] in order to make
15 sure that they have the information that they need to know
16 that when they are providing support to families, that those
17 families are actually going to be able to maintain their
18 housing, which is the goal of the program.

19 There are some tenants for whom the money is
20 either not the issue, or for whom the money isn't going to
21 be enough. So those are really the folks that we're worried
22 about; the folks that are going to just slip through the

1 cracks.

2 JERRY LITTLE: Further question, Representative
3 Hinch?

4 DICK HINCH: No. I think that -- I believe it's
5 prudent for us to see how this \$35 million dollars works,
6 before we -- I appreciate what Sarah said, but I think that
7 it's important that we see how the \$35 million works for us
8 before we -- because there's also the ability to apply
9 locally as well too. So I'll just leave it there.

10 JERRY LITTLE: Thank you. Senator Morse, do you
11 have a question?

12 SENATOR MORSE: Yes, Jerry, can -- I mean, at
13 least for me, can you explain what the funds were
14 appropriated for yesterday?

15 JERRY LITTLE: I could try, but even better than
16 that, I have Lisa English in the room with me, and she
17 worked on the design of the two programs.

18 So I'm going to turn it over to Lisa to explain
19 the two pieces of the Housing Relief Program that the
20 Governor announced yesterday. Lisa?

21 LISA ENGLISH: Thank you, Commissioner. So there
22 are two main parts to this program. There are one-time

1 assistance; they can be used to assist households with past
2 due rent from April 2020 forward, for households that fell
3 behind on rent due to COVID, or due to increased household
4 expenses that can be a result of COVID..

5 Perhaps other related expenses that may impact the
6 individual and family's ability to remain housed, and other
7 housing one-time expenses that if not paid impact the
8 ability maintain housing.

9 So this is -- the grants cannot exceed \$2500. And
10 again, it has to be conditioned on COVID-related loss or
11 increased expense.

12 And then the second part is the New Hampshire
13 Housing Relief Program will provide short-term rental
14 assistance to maintain or secure permanent housing.

15 So this, again, can include past due rent that was
16 not paid due to a COVID-19 related inability to pay, and
17 ongoing rental assistance on a short-term basis, using
18 progressive engagement with the [00:42:52 case management.
19 The rental assistance is designed to decrease over time, as
20 households regain stability.

21 There's another component to the rental
22 assistance, that will look at the possibility of first

1 month's rent and ongoing short-term rental assistance to
2 assist with initial cost to transition a working household
3 from a shelter to permanent housing.

4 So both of these programs -- the one-time grants
5 and the short-term rental assistance -- includes case
6 management services, help connect households with
7 appropriate services, and then the -- I think the last
8 detail -- the program payments are to be made directly to
9 the landlord or vendor.

10 Obviously, this has to end by December 30,2020,
11 and I guess this is one little aside: Is the fact certainly
12 this is a need now, and to the extent there's no extension
13 on the unemployment insurance at the end of July, there may
14 be an increased need.

15 So that's something we'll certainly be watching.
16 And if you'd like a quick update, I have heard from the
17 Bureau of Housing Support two of the five [00:44:07 agencies
18 I've got statistics for: Southern New Hampshire Services
19 has 369 requests so far, and Strafford has had over 200
20 requests.

21 Again, this is just requests. The application
22 form opened yesterday.

1 JERRY LITTLE: Very good. And there are no income
2 limitations on any of those programs, are there?

3 LISA ENGLISH: There isn't. I mean, there
4 certainly has to be an inability to pay. So it's not
5 designed for someone that has a hefty bank account, but has
6 lost some income; it's about maintaining people's housing.

7 But this could apply to people that may not have
8 access to other emergency solutions grants that are out
9 there.

10 JERRY LITTLE: Thank you, Lisa. Further
11 questions? Representative Wallner?

12 MARY JANE WALLNER: Yes, thank you, Mr. Little. I
13 wonder -- this is sort of a question for Sarah Mattson more.
14 I wonder if you would describe just very briefly again how
15 the Legal Assistance Program is different than the Housing
16 Relief Program that Lisa just described to us?

17 SARAH MATTSON DUSTIN: Sure. I'd be happy to do
18 that. So the Housing Relief Program is really about filing
19 in financial gaps.

20 So a family that either has past due rent because
21 they fell behind due to losing income or increased housing,
22 household expenditures related to COVID, or a family that on

1 an ongoing basis is going to continue to need some rental
2 assistance in order to stay housed.

3 So it really is a financial support program. I
4 think one of the legislators mentioned local assistance.

5 There really is some significant similarity
6 between the Housing Relief Program and the traditional role
7 of municipal welfare departments, in that they're looking at
8 whether or not people are unable to meet their basic needs
9 with the income they have now, and trying to fulfill those
10 gaps.

11 So one of the things that's really great about the
12 Housing Relief Fund is it's a way of preventing a lot of
13 these expenses from falling on the shoulders of
14 municipalities that are already struggling.

15 What we do is assist people not so much with
16 connection to these kinds of financial resources, but when
17 the source of resources fail, either because the family is
18 not going to be able to maintain housing because it's not a
19 -- for example because it's not a financial issue.

20 So for example, much of the work that we do is
21 with clients who have behavioral health disabilities, and
22 that may mean that there are behaviors that are a

1 manifestation of that disability that are problematic in the
2 housing setting, either with the landlord or with other
3 tenants.

4 We will typically work with our clients to help
5 them get into mental health treatment, to resolve the
6 behavioral issues that are causing a problem, as to be able
7 to regain a good landlord/tenant relationship and a good
8 relationship with their neighborhoods.

9 So those kinds of cases aren't -- a person in a
10 circumstance like that might not even be behind on their
11 rent. This is a unique situation in which I think the risks
12 of a person becoming homeless right now are even worse than
13 they ordinarily are.

14 With such a tight, tight housing market in New
15 Hampshire, it's always problematic for our clients to become
16 homeless, because it's so hard to be the person who gets to
17 the front of the line to get the new apartment.

18 Right now, we know that a lot has been invested in
19 trying to reconfigure our homeless shelters to make sure
20 that they're safe from a public health standpoint.

21 We continue to have a really tight housing market.
22 It's likely to become even more pressured, as people -- as

1 there are more people who are losing housing. So that's one
2 example of the way in which this is different.

3 And then there are certainly, I think, going to be
4 circumstances for people for whom the Housing Relief Program
5 isn't enough.

6 And if there's a way that we can, say, negotiate a
7 fair repayment agreement over time, where a tenant is able
8 to patch together some different forms of assistance with
9 their own income spread out in payments over time, in order
10 to make sure that they can get housed -- that's really work
11 that we can do -- that I think the [00:48:47 are less
12 equipped to be able to do that kind of legal work.

13 So that was rather a long answer, but I hope that
14 answers your question, Representative Wallner.

15 JERRY LITTLE: Does that answer your question,
16 Representative Wallner?

17 MARY JANE WALLNER: Yes, thank you. That was very
18 helpful.

19 JERRY LITTLE: Thank you. Senator Reagan, do you
20 have a question on that, sir?

21 SENATOR REAGAN: Jerry, I'd like to move that we
22 recommend \$128,000 to Legal Assistance so that they can add

1 staff to relieve state employees from trying to answer all
2 of these problems that all of these people are going to
3 present.

4 ERIN HENNESSEY: Hennessey seconds.

5 JERRY LITTLE: Thank you so I have a motion from
6 Senator Reagan to recommend the Governor made \$128,000
7 available to New Hampshire Legal Assistance, seconded by
8 Representative Hennessey. Further discussion?
9 Representative Wallner?

10 MARY JANE WALLNER: Thank you, Jerry. I had my
11 hand up to second the motion. Took someone else that you
12 called on.

13 DICK HINCH: Come on, Jerry.

14 SENATOR D'ALLESANDRO: If I could --

15 JERRY LITTLE: My apologies. Senator
16 D'Allesandro?

17 SENATOR D'ALLESANDRO: Thank you, Jerry. I would
18 support the motion. I think we're addressing a need that
19 they have articulated very well on this call, and Senator
20 Reagan was wise to accept the dollars that they were asking
21 for. And again, his statement was much appreciated.

22 So I think it's the right thing to do, it's the

1 right time to move, and I'm supportive of the motion and the
2 second. Thank you.

3 JERRY LITTLE: Any further questions or comments?
4 The motion is for \$128,000 to New Hampshire Legal
5 Assistance. I do not see any questions or comments, so
6 we'll move to a roll call.

7 Senate President Soucy?

8 DONNA SOUCY: Yes.

9 JERRY LITTLE: Speaker Shurtleff?

10 STEVE SHURTLEFF: Yes.

11 JERRY LITTLE: Senator Morse?

12 SENATOR MORSE: Yes.

13 JERRY LITTLE: Representative Hinch?

14 DICK HINCH: Dick Hinch, yes.

15 JERRY LITTLE: Senator Lou D'Allesandro?

16 SENATOR D'ALLESSANDRO: Yes.

17 JERRY LITTLE: Representative Wallner?

18 REPRESENTATIVE WALLNER: Yes.

19 JERRY LITTLE: Senator John Reagan?

20 SENATOR REAGAN: Yes.

21 JERRY LITTLE: And Representative Erin Hennessey?

22 ERIN HENNESSEY: Hennessey, yes.

1 JERRY LITTLE: Thank you all. Anything else you'd
2 like to say, Sarah?

3 SARAH MATTSON DUSTIN: I would like to say thank
4 you very much for that show of support for the services
5 which are so essential right now. We really appreciate it.
6 We'll put the money to good use, if the Governor sees fit to
7 approve it.

8 JERRY LITTLE: Thank you very many. Moving on to
9 the -- and I believe Steve Ahnen of the Hospital Association
10 is with us. Are you there, Steve?

11 STEVE AHNEN: I am. Can you hear me?

12 JERRY LITTLE: We can hear you fine, and we've
13 received at the GOFERR office your materials, and we've
14 forward them out, so everybody else on the LAB has them as
15 well.

16 Why don't you go right ahead and tell us what the
17 status is in the hospital industry across the state of New
18 Hampshire?

19 STEVE AHNEN: Thank you very much, Director
20 Little, and I -- this is, again, Steve Ahnen. I'm in my
21 office in Concord and I am alone.

22 I apologize for sending multiple versions of the

1 presentation, with slight minor adjustments. My English
2 teacher always said you have to turn in a perfect paper, so
3 that was why we had the multiple versions. So I apologize
4 about that.

5 But number 1, thank you and good afternoon.
6 Readily appreciate the opportunity to update the GOFERR
7 Legislative Advisory Board. Certainly appreciate the work
8 of this group in identifying and supporting the need for
9 support for hospitals, given the significant amount of
10 financial challenges they're facing as a result of COVID-19.

11 And I think it goes without saying, certainly
12 appreciated the Governor's move and recognition yesterday in
13 announcing nearly \$25 million dollars in grants to
14 hospitals, especially those hit hardest by the pandemic in
15 terms of the number of patients they've seen, and have not
16 received as much in terms of federal relief, all of which is
17 very, very helpful and very, very much appreciated.

18 But, as the Governor said yesterday, there is
19 still much more to be done.

20 So the first few slides of the presentation I
21 really didn't intend to go through. I included those more
22 as just background for your information, just showing the

1 significant impact that hospitals have statewide in New
2 Hampshire on the economy and the health care system.

3 I also, you know, just included a chart that talks
4 about the historically low operating margins before we got
5 into COVID.

6 So we're operating at a fairly lean benchmark.
7 Total operating margin in 2018 was about 1.1 percent, with a
8 number of hospitals -- eight -- operating in the red at that
9 time.

10 National operating margins are significantly
11 higher than that. But again, as we came into the pandemic,
12 we certainly were operating at a very lean level.

13 The next slide really, you all have heard -- and I
14 shared this with you when we spoke back in, whenever that
15 was, it seems like forever ago now -- in terms of the things
16 that hospitals were doing and partnering with the state on
17 as the COVID-19 pandemic really began..

18 And as we tried to work together for a targeted
19 response and all of the efforts -- whether it was standing
20 up alternative care sites, suspending elective and nonurgent
21 procedures to make sure we had capacity for a surge of
22 COVID-19 patients as well as the PPE that were needed; and

1 also, to protect staff and patients and communities dealing
2 with issues of PPE and all of the rest.

3 I won't go into all of the details, but as you
4 know, that had a significant impact on hospitals and their
5 revenues seeing significant reductions in utilization,
6 significant reductions in the number of patients that were
7 in the hospital, and ultimately a significant loss in
8 revenue.

9 \$445 million through May, \$535 million losses
10 through end of June -- losses that certainly are simply
11 unsustainable, and certainly need help to support us to get
12 us through.

13 The next slide, COVID-19 grants provided to New
14 Hampshire hospitals, I wanted to make certain that you saw
15 and understood the amount of money that's come into the
16 state from the federal government, as well as that which has
17 been spent from the Health Care System Relief Fund here at
18 the state.

19 So a number of distributions that have come in,
20 starting at the top from the CARES Act, that was the 175
21 billion dollars that Congress appropriated to support health
22 care providers -- not just hospitals, but health care

1 providers.

2 Initially, it was \$100 billion dollars, but \$75
3 billion dollars was added to it. Those first rounds of
4 funding, hospitals received a little over \$100 -- almost
5 \$110 million.

6 And then you'll see a box there called, "True Up
7 Payments." After those payments were made, the federal
8 government went back and they examined to make certain that
9 they had made those payments correctly. So there were some
10 hospitals that received slightly more than they had
11 initially received, totaling \$2.4 million for nine hospitals
12 in that first and second round.

13 The \$10 billion dollars that were spent for hot
14 spots -- COVID hotspots around the country -- the first go
15 around, no hospitals in New Hampshire qualified for that
16 round. There is a separate, second round of hotspot funding
17 of about \$10 billion dollars that would be going out to
18 hospitals nationally.

19 We understand that that could be coming out as
20 early as this week. But as of now, we have not seen that
21 just yet. We're certainly hopeful that some hospitals in
22 New Hampshire would benefit from that, based upon sort of

1 updated data that they're looking at. But the initial
2 round, no hospitals in New Hampshire received any of those
3 funds.

4 There was \$10 billion dollars that was spent for
5 rural hospitals -- hospitals in New Hampshire -- 17
6 hospitals in rural communities received about \$112 million
7 dollars, with just a little bit of those True Up payments
8 that were made.

9 And then a couple of other small programs in terms
10 of the Payroll Protection Program, the Health Resource and
11 Services Administration, and then lastly the fund that was
12 established here in New Hampshire from the \$1.25 billion
13 dollars the state received from the CARES Act. \$35.5 million
14 of that has gone out.

15 So in total, hospitals have received to date
16 \$261.3 million dollars in support, both from the federal and
17 state government, all very many appreciated.

18 But in context, if you look at the next slide,
19 hospitals have seen through the end of June \$534.9, \$535
20 million dollars in losses. Those \$261 million dollars in
21 grants offset those losses to some extent, resulting in
22 \$273.5 million dollars in losses through the end of June --

1 simply unsustainable.

2 And, you know, if you go to the next slide, you
3 know, as we look out over the coming months, you know,
4 hospitals began in early May to start to resume emergent,
5 elective surgeries and procedures to get back to the
6 business that they are in.

7 And that has begun, and it's taking off, but it's
8 taking off at a deliberate pace. It's -- we're not back to
9 100 percent of pre-COVID volumes, and, you know, we actually
10 likely won't be until sometime in 2021.

11 Consensus among national experts is probably
12 something mid 2021 until we get back to 100 percent of that
13 capacity. And I think that's kind of what we see.

14 As we've asked and looked -- and asked our
15 hospitals to begin to really project what are the estimates
16 of revenues and expenses, and therefore losses that they're
17 going to continue to see over the coming, you know, months,
18 if we look out through the end of the year:

19 Assuming there's no increase in COVID cases,
20 assuming we don't have a surge like we're seeing on other
21 parts of the country, you know, hospitals believe that they
22 can, you know, get back to 70, 80 percent, maybe 90 percent

1 of those volumes. But we're still going to be seeing those
2 losses. They are significant.

3 And, you know, so by the end of the year, absent
4 any additional federal funding, you know, given the revenues
5 that we've -- the relief funds that we've seen, you know,
6 we're going to be looking at close to \$500 million dollars
7 in net losses by the end of this fiscal year -- something
8 that is certainly unsustainable.

9 And again, we'll see some of those losses continue
10 into the coming year.

11 So I'll just sort of end by talking about, you
12 know, the partnership that has certainly existed. You know,
13 hospitals in the state stood together.

14 In fact, it was in our offices when the Governor
15 and the Congressional delegation held a precedent that
16 ultimately announced the first COVID case in the state of
17 New Hampshire.

18 As we talked about the things that we needed to do
19 to partner, to be ready, so that hospitals could be there
20 for their communities in this tremendous time of need.
21 That's been really, really important, and I think will
22 continue to be important.

1 But there's no question that hospitals will need
2 significant financial support over the coming months. You
3 know, absent that support, we're going to have some real
4 significant challenges to our health care system today and
5 tomorrow.

6 And I think, you know, needing to be able to
7 ensure that we can be there today for our communities during
8 this crisis and be there for them tomorrow is incredibly
9 important.

10 Again, all of the support has been very help -- we
11 appreciate that. I think the next several months are going
12 to be critical to the financial recovery of our state's
13 hospital.

14 And we -- again -- appreciate all of the work and
15 help that's gone on down in Washington. Our congressional
16 delegation has been incredibly helpful.

17 I know the Governor has been working the phones,
18 working the administration to try and ensure that hospitals
19 are getting the support that they need.

20 We're going to need to continue those efforts, and
21 we're hopeful that Congress will be completing another COVID
22 relief package sometime between now and the end of this

1 month, that we're hopeful can provide yet additional support
2 for hospitals in the Granite State, as well as those around
3 the country.

4 So Mr. Chairman, that is my update, and I'd be
5 happy to respond to any questions that you or members of the
6 Legislative Advisory Board might have.

7 JERRY LITTLE: Thank you, Mr. Ahnen. Are there
8 any questions from the Committee for Steve? Senator Reagan?
9 Senator Reagan, do you have a question, sir?

10 SENATOR REAGAN: Hey, Jerry, I make a motion that
11 we wait; that we move to take no action pending the action
12 by Congress to assist the hospitals.

13 JERRY LITTLE: Thank you. Would anybody like to
14 second that motion?

15 SENATOR D'ALLESANDRO: Could I inquire, Jerry, of
16 Senator Reagan?

17 JERRY LITTLE: Certainly, Senator. Go ahead,
18 Senator D'Allesandro.

19 SENATOR D'ALLESANDRO: Just in brief. Given what
20 we have seen on the screen, and given what Mr. Ahnen has
21 talked about, it looks as if there's a very significant
22 problem here. And there appears to be discussion at the

1 federal level that come across with more money. But there's
2 a blank period there.

3 So I'm just looking to see that the next to the
4 last slide, which indicates to me that unless you increase
5 utilization rate, you're in real trouble as we move forward
6 through the months of July, August and into September, if
7 something doesn't happen -- either a significant federal
8 situation, or something is done here.

9 Is that the correct reading of the information
10 that you've provided to us?

11 SENATOR REAGAN: I believe that is correct,
12 Senator. And, you know, the reality is our ability to
13 increase services is challenged by a number of things.
14 Obviously, we have to keep a watchful eye on the number of
15 COVID patients.

16 Should we see an increase in the number of COVID
17 patients that are hospitalized, that could very well mean
18 hospitals have to slow down the other work that they're
19 doing, to ensure that they have the appropriate levels of
20 PPE testing, as well as ICU and other beds that may be
21 necessary.

22 So we're also going to need to make certain that

1 as we are ramping up those services, that we're doing them
2 in a way that ensures the safety of our patients as well as
3 our staff.

4 So, you know, instead of sort of batching things,
5 you know, one right after the other, we're going to need to
6 spread things out so that we can ensure appropriate cleaning
7 and sanitization and all the rest between those visits, to
8 ensure the health and safety of our patients and our staff.

9 So we're going to have to build in some of those
10 inefficiencies, if you will, to ensure that we can do the
11 things that we need to do safely.

12 So I'm concerned about our ability to truly ramp
13 up and get back to those present COVID levels, much sooner
14 than that. But again, all of that really depends upon what
15 we're seeing.

16 You know, right now our numbers and trends are
17 moving in the right direction. But if you simply turn on
18 the news or read a paper, we're seeing significant increases
19 in other parts of the country.

20 Certainly hope that that isn't the case here, but
21 I think we have to be prepared for a surge or an increase in
22 cases in New Hampshire at some point, whether that's this

1 fall, this winter or in the future.

2 SENATOR D'ALLESANDRO: Further question, Jerry?

3 I would then ask, what would the association be looking for
4 at this point in time?

5 I mean, throw a number out there that you think is
6 needed in order to cover this period of time -- let's call
7 it this period of limbo between when the federal government
8 acts and what you need to sustain yourself before our next -
9 - before the next situation develops?

10 SENATOR REAGAN: Well, we certainly felt the
11 recommendation that the Legislative Advisory Board made
12 previously was an appropriate recommendation.

13 You know, I believe we are going to need, you
14 know, significant help. So if we're looking at \$500 million
15 dollars in losses, we're going to need help to navigate
16 through that between now and the end of the year.

17 So, you know, what is that number? Is that, you
18 know, 20 percent, 30 percent, 40 percent, 50 percent of
19 that? You know, we're going to need help to navigate
20 through this, as we've said. And I certainly appreciate the
21 consideration for what that looks like. But there will be
22 additional funds.

1 But I have to say, you know, we've certainly not
2 seen a uniform distribution of funds that have happened to
3 date. So I don't know that we can assume that -- you know,
4 the federal government is going to solve this problem.

5 You know, the Congress appropriated \$175 billion
6 dollars for the CARES Act Emergency Relief Fund, and, you
7 know, the federal government has attempted to distribute
8 those funds. And, you know, sometimes those formulas don't
9 always work in the best ways that you would hope that they
10 would work.

11 And, you know, if perhaps the next round of
12 support that Congress, you know, provides, perhaps needs to
13 be a little bit more directive in terms of how those funds
14 should be sent to providers -- and specifically to
15 hospitals.

16 So I'm certainly hopeful and optimistic that we
17 will see additional support coming in the coming days and
18 months. But there's no question that we're going to need as
19 much support as we can get to help us navigate through this
20 crisis.

21 SENATOR D'ALLESANDRO: Then I would ask, Steve,
22 that you come up with a definitive number that you believe

1 you need in order to sustain between now and the point
2 hopefully when the federal government acts. And I think
3 they're working on this right now.

4 But indeed, if we're going to be able to address
5 your situation, I think we have to have a number. You know,
6 initially we talked about the \$100 million-dollar range, I
7 believe. Wasn't that the initial discussion we had, when
8 all of this started?

9 SENATOR REAGAN: Well, when we initially started
10 the conversation, we had suggested \$200 million dollars
11 would be an important investment. The Legislative Advisory
12 Board suggested doing \$100 million now, and looking at, you
13 know, coming back at what that might look like.

14 I still think that that's an appropriate, you
15 know, estimate of what the kinds of needs are going to be.
16 But a lot of that will depend upon, you know, what happens
17 on the ground.

18 SENATOR D'ALLESANDRO: Right, okay.

19 JERRY LITTLE: So we have a bit of a queue for
20 questions and comments that have lined up. I want to
21 apologize. Senator Reagan has a motion in front of us that
22 has not yet been seconded, and we seem to have moved into

1 discussion phase at this point, so I apologize for letting
2 the process get a little bit ahead of itself.

3 Would anybody like to make an -- offer a second to
4 continue the conversation? Senator Morse, or Representative
5 Wallner, we have question mark hands up from either of you?

6 SENATOR MORSE: Well, let me be clear, I support
7 the Reagan motion, but I don't think it's necessary. I'm
8 not prepared to vote on anything on this today.

9 I think if this discussion's going to go further
10 than what this committee has already said, thought that we
11 should go forward with, I think you're going to need a
12 committee like Finance to go back.

13 Revenues are one thing, and I understand revenues.
14 But, you know, how many people got laid off in this time
15 period in order to help reduce to the hospital revenue
16 problem that's not there. I don't know any of these
17 answers.

18 I would assume the Governor's Office is studying
19 the cashflow issue at each and every hospital, because I
20 don't think anybody wants to see any hospitals run into not
21 being able to function.

22 So there's so much detail here that goes beyond

1 this committee. I certainly agree with the motion that we
2 not be doing anything today, and making a motion to do any
3 morning than the \$100 million we already did.

4 Senator Reagan, not hearing a second for your
5 motion, we'll remove it, I believe.

6 Representative Wallner, you had your hand up?

7 MARY JANE WALLNER: Yes, Thank you, Mr. Little.
8 There's a couple of things I -- and some pieces of
9 information I would like to get. At the beginning of March
10 I think it was -- maybe it was the middle of March -- we set
11 up the Health Care. That was one of the very first things
12 that happened, was the Health Care Fund was set up.

13 I wondered where we are in the distribution of
14 funds in that fund? I think it was set up for \$100 million,
15 and I know a while ago we had not spent down -- we weren't
16 nearly spent down. So I would be interested to know where
17 we stand with that.

18 And then the other piece I would like to have a
19 better grasp of is the \$25 million that the Governor
20 announced yesterday. How is that being distributed?

21 SENATOR REAGAN: So let me see if I can answer
22 some of that. So the \$100 million-dollar relief fund that

1 the Governor established is what has been funding -- what
2 funded that \$25 million -- nearly \$25 million yesterday, and
3 then the \$10.6 million that had been paid out to hospitals
4 earlier.

5 So, as I said earlier, \$35.5 million of that
6 funding has come out of that \$100 million-dollar relief
7 fund.

8 I don't have an accounting of all of the other
9 providers that have received funding from that in front of
10 me, so I don't know what the balance of that fund is.

11 Perhaps Director Little or somebody else has that
12 information in front of them.

13 So the funds that were announced yesterday, I
14 presume those will be directed to those hospitals at the
15 earliest possible time.

16 MARY JANE WALLNER: And do we know at this point
17 how that distribution will be determined? I mean, what
18 hospitals --

19 SENATOR REAGAN: So that was determined yesterday.
20 The Governor made that announcement that eight specific
21 hospitals would be receiving funding; mostly those hospitals
22 in the southern tier of the state. So in Manchester and

1 Nashua, that had seen the most number of COVID cases, but
2 had received the least amount of federal support. But four
3 additional hospitals in the state also received funding, and
4 that was announced yesterday, specifically by Hospital.

5 MARY JANE WALLNER: All right, thank you. Is that
6 on -- do we have that on the GOFERR website at this point?

7 SENATOR REAGAN: Yes. If you go to the GOFERR
8 website, you'll see the Health Care System Relief Fund.

9 MARY JANE WALLNER: Right.

10 SENATOR REAGAN: Under "COVID Expenditures." And
11 then you'll get to other links and issues relative to that.
12 I'm not sure it's been updated to identify the distributions
13 that were announced yesterday.

14 MARY JANE WALLNER: Okay. Thank you. That was
15 helpful. Thank you very much.

16 JERRY LITTLE: Further questions or comments? I'm
17 not seeing any.

18 STEVE AHNEN: I'll just add, Director Little, that
19 if there's other things that we can do to work with members
20 of the Advisory Board to provide any additional information
21 or clarification, we're always happy to do so.

22 JERRY LITTLE: Thank you very much, Mr. Ahnen.

1 I'd have a question from Representative Hinch.

2 DICK HINCH: Yes, thank you. So I agree with what
3 Senator Morse said earlier. I'm not prepared today, because
4 I think there's some information that still needs to come
5 out from the federal side.

6 We have a meeting on July 29 already scheduled,
7 and so I think that it would be appropriate for us to delay
8 any actions until the July 29, and see what, if anything,
9 has rolled out from the federal government.

10 And at the same time, we can also get a summary
11 available to us of how the \$25 million dollars from
12 yesterday and any balances remaining is going to be expended
13 as well.

14 Would that work for you, Steve?

15 STEVE AHNEN: I'm happy to do whatever works for
16 you.

17 DICK HINCH: Thank you.

18 JERRY LITTLE: Representative Hinch, was that a
19 request to Mr. Ahnen to return to present or speak with the
20 Committee at its next meeting on the twenty-ninth?

21 DICK HINCH: Yes, sir, it was.

22 JERRY LITTLE: Thank you. Are you available, Mr.

1 Ahnen?

2 STEVE AHNEN: I can't think of any place I'd
3 rather be.

4 COLLECTIVE: [Laughter]

5 STEVE AHNEN: Yes. The answer is yes.

6 JERRY LITTLE: Thank you. Are there any other
7 questions or discussion relative to hospitals? I'm not
8 seeing any. Thank you very much, Steve, for joining us this
9 afternoon, and we will look forward to speaking with you
10 again on the twenty-ninth, but I'm sure we'll speak again
11 before that.

12 STEVE AHNEN: Great. Thank you very much.

13 DONNALEE LOZEAU: Thank you, sir.

14 That is the -- that's the full list of the
15 presentations we had planned for you today. We do have an
16 item on your "Other Discussions" - summer camps. I believe
17 this is -- I don't recall if it was you, Senator
18 D'Allesandro, that asked us to continue this conversation?

19 SENATOR D'ALLESANDRO: About the summer camps?

20 JERRY LITTLE: Yes, sir.

21 SENATOR D'ALLESANDRO: Yeah. I asked some
22 specific questions with regard to the summer camps, and one

1 was the day camps versus the overnight camps, who would be
2 open and who wouldn't be opening. And then there was a
3 situation with for profit and not for profit entities, how
4 many fell into each category.

5 I think the camping situation is very significant.
6 These kids who use these camps -- particularly the New
7 Hampshire kids, which with the day camps I think would
8 reflect, have been locked up since March.

9 And they have had very little, if any,
10 socialization. Socialization is part of the life
11 experience, and they've got to get up and get out.

12 And there are things that happen at these camps
13 that I think are very beneficial to the students -- to the
14 young kids. I know my grandchildren were anticipating
15 going, and many of these camps have been canceled.

16 So I think it's a very relevant topic, and we have
17 an opportunity to provide some help if we can, when we know
18 exactly what's -- you know, what's going on and who's going
19 to make it and who isn't going to make it, and what the
20 needs are.

21 I just think it's a very worthy subject to discuss
22 as it relates to -- again, the social aspect of living.

1 We're social creatures, and if we don't have
2 socialization, our kids have problems and I think -- you
3 know, mental health has really become an issue during this
4 pandemic. And I think child abuse has become a very
5 significant issue during this period when you're locked up.

6 All of those things have to be looked up. I'm not
7 saying that camps are the answer to the question, but I
8 think that they play a role in relieving some of this
9 pressure. So yes, I thought it was a worthy subject to
10 continue discussion on.

11 JERRY LITTLE: Thank you, Senator. Representative
12 Mary Jane Wallner?

13 MARY JANE WALLNER: Thanks, Mr. Little. This is
14 Mary Jane. Did you just call my name? When they say, "Line
15 Unmuted" then you can't hear what you're saying. So did you
16 call on me?

17 JERRY LITTLE: Yes, I did, representative.

18 MARY JANE WALLNER: Okay, thank you, I'm sorry. I
19 would really like to see us do something for camps. It
20 seems like there was a lot of confusion. We had some
21 additional information from Mr. Robin. It seems like there
22 was a lot of confusion under what programs they might have

1 been able to apply to.

2 And some of them tried the Main Street Program,
3 some got told that they weren't really eligible for the Main
4 Street. Some who are non-profit are applying to be non-
5 profit, and some may have been able to get into the child
6 care program.

7 But it seems like it's a lot of confusion around
8 where they fit. And maybe they aren't a good fit for any of
9 those, any of those categories. But I think that, you know,
10 New Hampshire is sort of famous for their camps.

11 It really is -- it's a business an industry that
12 New Hampshire is very proud of. And this has hit them very
13 hard. And I would like to see us be able to do something
14 for them.

15 And also, along what Senator D'Allesandro was
16 saying, I thought a lot about this. And I think children
17 have really been -- have really suffered because of the
18 pandemic. They've lost school.

19 In some cases, that's worked out okay for them,
20 but they've lost contact with their friends on a daily
21 basis, their families often now are in a hard financial
22 situation. And now they may or may not -- they probably

1 don't have a summer program to be involved in.

2 And I think it -- childhood is so short, and to
3 have lost all of these things, I think I would love to see
4 us do something for kids in the way of trying to shore up
5 some of the summer camps programs.

6 And I know that some of the day camps are trying
7 to stay open, but the ratio of children to counselors is
8 much lower than usual. So it becomes a very expensive
9 proposition to stay open. So, you know, even those day
10 camps that are open are really struggling to make ends meet.

11 And I hope that we can set up something for camps.
12 And I would -- I actually -- I think I will make a motion to
13 set up a fund of \$10 million dollars for camps. And it
14 should be looked at as those camps that are day camps that
15 are open, and the residential camps that may be two separate
16 pots of money.

17 Representative Wallner has made a motion to set up
18 a \$10 million-dollar fund for day camps that are open and
19 residential camps as well. Can you put some definition also
20 on residential camps that are open this year,
21 representative?

22 MARY JANE WALLNER: Well, I think that's harder.

1 I think those are going to need some help. I don't think
2 [01:25:39 audio unclear] but in order for them to just stay
3 alive and be around for next summer, I think they are going
4 to need some assistance, just to get through until next -- a
5 year from now, really.

6 And I'm sure -- because they've had now a whole
7 season of no income at all, but yet they do have ongoing
8 expenses to take care of the properties and take care of
9 their camps.

10 LISA ENGLISH: Thank you. It looks like we have a
11 hand raised by Representative Hinch?

12 DICK HINCH: Yes, thank you. So I don't know what
13 the right number for camps is. But what I heard
14 Representative Wallner say is there's some huge amount there
15 with those who are running the camps on what they qualify
16 for.

17 And I think before we make an allocation, the
18 first thing we need to do is provide some [01:26:52 audio
19 unclear] -- if you will -- available to all of the camps
20 that says, "If you are [X] this is what you can apply for,
21 and if you're [Y] this is what you can apply for.

22 And if you're [Z] you can't apply at all, because

1 you don't qualify."

2 Or something like that. But to just randomly pick
3 a number of, "Okay, let's do \$10 million dollars" how will
4 that be distributed, who will distribute it, how is a
5 determination going to be made on how it's going to be
6 distributed, is there a ratio between profit and non-profit?

7 I think there's a lot of questions that still need
8 to be addressed on this. And again, perhaps this is an item
9 that can wait until July 29, so that we can do some
10 proactive posting on the GOFERR website, and that may
11 provide some insight into those who are owning or renting or
12 facilitating the camps, to see if they may qualify for
13 something already.

14 So I'm having a lot of problems with supporting
15 just a random \$10 million-dollar allocation at this time,
16 and I'm not saying it's not worthy, I'm just saying I don't
17 know that that's the right number, or how it's going to be
18 administered.

19 Thank you.

20 JERRY LITTLE: So we have a couple more questions.
21 We have a question from Speaker Shurtleff, as well as
22 Representative Hennessey and Representative Wallner. I

1 would just offer -- I think there was a question/comment
2 from Representative Wallner about accessibility to other
3 grant programs that are in existence already.

4 We can tell you that we do have some summer camps
5 who have applied and been accepted in the Main Street Relief
6 Fund. We do have some summer camps who are applying to the
7 non-profit Relief Fund.

8 So there are already camps successfully moving
9 through those two programs. There has been conversation in
10 the past about summer camps that were denied access to the
11 child care program.

12 My understanding is the reason they were denied is
13 not that they were summer camps, but that they had closed.
14 And the intent was to maintain open spots for child care;
15 particularly for frontline responders and health care
16 workers.

17 And so, the fact that schools were not -- excuse
18 me, the summer camps were not open -- is what disqualified
19 them, not the fact that they were summer camps.

20 So with that, the next question/comment comes from
21 Speaker Shurtleff.

22 STEVE SHURTLEFF: Thank you Commissioner. I think

1 Representative Wallner had a motion, and I raised my hand to
2 second that motion.

3 But I would just add as someone who grew up in New
4 Hampshire and attended youth camps, I know personally how
5 important they are, and how much they add to the quality of
6 life here in the Granite State.

7 And my concern is for some of the camp owners who
8 have -- must be feeling a degree of frustration at seeing
9 some doors closed to them and receiving assistance, I'd like
10 to see us move forward with Representative Wallner's motion
11 just to give them notice that help is on the way. Thank you
12 Commissioner.

13 JERRY LITTLE: Thank you, Speaker Shurtleff and to
14 you in particular I apologize for the failure of the
15 parliamentary process and not getting the second before the
16 conversation started -- my apologies.

17 STEVE SHURTLEFF: That's fine.

18 JERRY LITTLE: Next? Representative Hennessey?

19 ERIN HENNESSEY: Thank you, Director Little. I
20 would just like to say I have two kids, and they thoroughly
21 enjoy their summer camp experience here in New Hampshire.
22 They both go to overnight YMCA camps.

1 And I feel for these camps -- I get e-mails almost
2 every day from them -- because they had to make the decision
3 early on to decide if they were going to be open or not, and
4 if they have not qualified for funds yet, because they were
5 not going to be open this year, that's disappointing. I'm
6 hoping that the not-for-profit funds would be available to
7 them.

8 But for those that were either told that they
9 didn't qualify for something or they didn't believe that
10 they were qualified for something, or were told that more
11 funds would be coming in a different category, I believe
12 that there's still groups out there that are very beneficial
13 the kids in New Hampshire, that will not receive funding.

14 To Mr. Leder (phonetic)'s point, I do have to say
15 that I agree with him that there are a lot of questions. Is
16 the Nonprofit Center not getting -- are they for profit?
17 Are they open? Are they closed?

18 So I would like to support them. I would just
19 like a little bit more details on what the actual financial
20 mood would be.

21 JERRY LITTLE: Representative Wallner?

22 MARY JANE WALLNER: Oh, Thank you, Mr. Little.

1 Did everyone receive additional materials from Mr. Robin? I
2 think this came in after the presentation.

3 JERRY LITTLE: Yes. We received a memo last week,
4 which should have been forwarded -- which was forwarded to
5 everyone.

6 MARY JANE WALLNER: So in that memo, on the second
7 page, he outlines that the anticipated loss is around \$146
8 million dollars. He used the percentage of 17 percent of
9 that as approximately \$24.8 million.

10 We used that because he was looking at what the
11 awards were to the Main Street business relief programs.
12 And that seemed to me that that was what his -- sort of what
13 he was requesting for stamps.

14 And I felt that probably there were some camps
15 that had been able to apply the Main Street -- I don't know
16 how many -- and I do not know how many were applied to the
17 Nonprofit or how many got accepted, and what the awards
18 were.

19 But it seemed like providing a fund that maybe was
20 less -- you know, less than 50 percent of what he had
21 outlined in his letter to us was something that we might be
22 able to do.

1 And I agree with Representative Hinch that yes, we
2 need to be sure that if you -- you know, the camps that got
3 into the Main Street program and got funding, I think that
4 should be taken into consideration, if we did do a separate
5 funding just for camps.

6 And possibly, possibly some of the groups that are
7 already doing some of the funding -- like, who did maybe
8 possibly with the Main Street Relief or the Nonprofit, might
9 be willing to take on a separate camp fund.

10 And I believe at this point the deadline for Main
11 Street and for Nonprofit have closed. I believe those
12 programs are closed at this point.

13 JERRY LITTLE: That is correct; both deadlines for
14 applications has passed. Representative Hinch, another
15 question or comment?

16 DICK HINCH: Yes, thank you, Jerry. So
17 Representative Wallner is correct; the programs did just
18 close, and I think it may be appropriate -- again, and I
19 know that I'm making a request to hold up action on this,
20 because I'm having a great deal of difficulty supporting
21 this at this time -- it may be that the summary that was
22 provided to us should be and can be updated to those who

1 subsequently filed after he did the report and were
2 successful.

3 But more importantly, I still want to have a clear
4 understanding of how this is going to be administered --
5 who's going to decide who gets what, and when.

6 And I think those questions really are
7 appropriate before we just allocate \$10 million dollars. I
8 don't mean that disrespectfully, by the way. I just think
9 we need to have some more information and a better
10 understanding of, you know, what \$10 million dollars is
11 going to do for us.

12 And, you know, July 29 in my opinion is still
13 timely, especially knowing that the funding did close as of
14 yesterday, or before, depending.

15 JERRY LITTLE: Thank you, Representative Hinch.
16 Are there any other comments or questions? Do we have any
17 motions on Representative Wallner for a \$10 million-dollar
18 fund for summer camps, both day camps and residence camps, I
19 believe this are open is the modifier. And that was
20 seconded by Speaker Shurtleff. Any further conversation?

21 Representative Wallner?

22 MARY JANE WALLNER: I just wanted to clarify that

1 I think with residential camps, I would not say that they
2 would be open, necessarily. Because I think for many of
3 them, I mean, they would be opening today or tomorrow.

4 I mean, this is too short a notice for them to get
5 open, I think. But in order to be there next summer, is
6 what I'm concerned about, is that they will have the funding
7 to get through a whole year with no revenue.

8 So I would not say they have to be open. That
9 would not be part of this motion.

10 JERRY LITTLE: Thank you. Representative
11 Hennessey?

12 ERIN HENNESSEY: Sorry, my question was just
13 answered.

14 JERRY LITTLE: Thank you. So I'll restate the
15 motion from Representative Wallner's \$10 million-dollar fund
16 for summer camps, day camps that are open, resident camps --
17 status of open or not is not material, seconded by Speaker
18 Shurtleff. Further conversation? Seeing none, I will go
19 through the roll.

20 Senate President Soucy?

21 DONNA SOUCY: Yes.

22 JERRY LITTLE: Speaker Shurtleff?

1 STEVE SHURTLEFF: Yes.

2 JERRY LITTLE: Senator Morse?

3 SENATOR MORSE: No.

4 JERRY LITTLE: Representative Hinch?

5 DICK HINCH: No.

6 JERRY LITTLE: Senator Lou D'Allesandro?

7 SENATOR D'ALLESSANDRO: Yes.

8 JERRY LITTLE: Representative Mary Wallner?

9 REPRESENTATIVE WALLNER: Yes.

10 JERRY LITTLE: Senator Reagan?

11 SENATOR REAGAN: No.

12 JERRY LITTLE: Representative Hennessey?

13 ERIN HENNESSEY: Hennessey votes no.

14 JERRY LITTLE: That appears to be a 4:4 tie, the

15 motion fails. That is the last item on our agenda. Our

16 next scheduled meeting is for Wednesday, July 29 at 1:00

17 p.m. I have a number of questions or comments to be made.

18 It looks to me like we're going to the other category on

19 your agenda. Senator D'Allesandro?

20 Senator D'Allesandro?

21 JERRY LITTLE: We'll come back to Senator

22 D'Allesandro. Representative Wallner?

1 MARY JANE WALLNER: Well, I'm hoping that we
2 aren't closing, even though the vote was 4:4, and I made
3 motions; the motion failed.

4 I hope we aren't closing out the conversation
5 about camps, and I hope that maybe we can find out some of
6 the information that representative Hinch wanted a number of
7 camps that applied through the Main Street and through the
8 non-profit. And maybe that information will be available to
9 us by our next meeting.

10 And I had one other request. I would like to know
11 if we could get maybe a report about the status -- not at
12 this meeting, but at the meeting on the 29th -- the status of
13 the child care funding; how many applications there were,
14 total amounts of grants that were given out -- just sort of
15 a status report of what's going on with that particular
16 fund.

17 JERRY LITTLE: Very good. We will do that.
18 Representative Hennessey, question?

19 ERIN HENNESSEY: Thank you, Director Little. I
20 would like to add this to the summer camps to our agenda for
21 the twenty-ninth. Hopefully we'll have the information that
22 Representative Hinch requested for that time.

1 JERRY LITTLE: Very good. We will do that. And
2 Senator D'Allesandro, question or comment, sir?

3 [Pause]

4 JERRY LITTLE: Senator D'Allesandro, you maybe
5 muted, sir.

6 SENATOR D'ALLESANDRO: Am I off mute?

7 JERRY LITTLE: You are, thank you.

8 SENATOR D'ALLESANDRO: Thank you. Many of us
9 received a notification from the Fisher Cats baseball team
10 in Manchester, their season has been curtailed. Minor
11 League baseball will not be playing here. They're a very
12 substantial entity for the City of Manchester.

13 And I know that Mr. Key-Wallace, I asked you to
14 get him on the phone, he couldn't be on this week, because
15 he had something -- he had a tie-up, something that was
16 pressing.

17 But a discussion about the Fisher Cats. And
18 they're an entity. They're a for-profit corporation, but
19 they're a very valuable resource for New Hampshire, very
20 valuable resource for the city.

21 And I wonder if we could entertain some discussion
22 about doing something for the Fisher Cats. They are going

1 to lose everything this year, because there's nothing that
2 can happen, and there's no way, really, for them to
3 supplement any income. And they do have responsibilities to
4 the city.

5 And, as I said, they're a valuable entity. All of
6 you should have received a document from them outlining
7 their situation.

8 So I hope that we could discuss that at our next
9 meeting, and have Key-Wallace here to talk about how he
10 might be able to participate in -- not only in the
11 discussion, but in coming up with the results.

12 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

13 JERRY LITTLE: Very good, Senator, thank you. We
14 will add a discussion of the Fisher Cats to the agenda for
15 the meeting on the twenty-ninth.

16 Representative Hinch?

17 DICK HINCH: Yeah, thank you, Jerry. So following
18 up on what Senator D'Allesandro just said, if we're going to
19 discuss this on the twenty-ninth, as appropriate, then I
20 would also request that we find out from the mayor what the
21 city of Manchester is prepared to do as well, recognizing
22 how critical it is to the city and all.

1 It may be something that's going to happen on a
2 joint basis or not, but at least we should know what the
3 mayor plans to do.

4 JERRY LITTLE: Thank you, Representative. We will
5 inquire with Mayor Craig.

6 Any other issues to come before the Legislative
7 Advisory Board this afternoon? Seeing none, we will close
8 today's meeting at 2:49 p.m. Thank you all very much for
9 your work. Oh, excuse me, sorry, stop the press.

10 In the past, when you have made recommendations to
11 the Governor, the recommendation has been provided by a
12 member of the Committee, by your statehouse staff to us, and
13 we would then forward it over to the Governor in the
14 interest of time to facilitate things.

15 If you wish, I will offer to draft a memo with the
16 three -- I believe -- motions that we'll approve today for --
17 -- provided to Senator Morse, who is the Chair of the
18 Legislative Advisory Board for his review and approval, and
19 distribution to you before we send things over to the
20 Governor's office.

21 The motions that I receive that I write down go
22 down as approved unanimously in all cases where an

1 additional \$10 million dollars for University System of New
2 Hampshire, \$5 million dollars for the Community College
3 System of New Hampshire, \$128,000 for New Hampshire Legal
4 Assistance, and -- guess that was it. And the fourth one --

5 SENATOR D'ALLESANDRO: That's enough.

6 JERRY LITTLE: Very good. Is that all right with
7 you? I realize it's sort of presumptuous of me. It's
8 definitely out of the way, but I thought I would see if you
9 would like me to facilitate that memo for you?

10 MARY JANE WALLNER: That would be helpful, thank
11 you. Thank you.

12 SENATOR D'ALLESANDRO: That's fine, that's great.

13 JERRY LITTLE: Very good. I will draft a memo and
14 forward it to you, Senator Morse.

15 SENATOR MORSE: Thank you.

16 SENATOR D'ALLESANDRO: And to everybody, have a
17 happy Fourth of July.

18 COLLECTIVE: You too, happy Fourth of July.

19 JERRY LITTLE: Now we will adjourn at 2:51 p.m.
20 thank you.

21 COLLECTIVE: Thank you, Commissioner.

22 [End of Proceedings]