

MAINE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
SUMMARY OF AND RESPONSES TO PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chapter Number and Title of Rule: Chapter 10, Section 20.1, Adult Resident Discipline

The Department of Corrections provided notification of rulemaking to interested persons on October 8, 2025 and posted notification on the Department's website on October 8, 2025, and the Secretary of State's rule-making ad was published on October 15, 2025.

A public hearing was scheduled for November 3, 2025, and only one person, who declined to fully identify themselves, attended. Their only comment was that they did not believe the rule would be readily comprehended by someone with an 8th grade education. That person was invited to submit written comments with suggested simplified wording. They did not do so.

The Department believes that the rule is written as simply as it can be considering the complexity of the subject matter and the need for precision in a rule that is required to comply with due process notice requirements. It should also be noted that every adult facility resident has a case manager and that there are other staff who they can ask questions of if they do not understand the violations and/or sanctions listed in the rule. Further, any resident who does not understand the disciplinary process or who otherwise needs or requests assistance in defending themselves against a disciplinary charge has the opportunity to have a trained counsel substitute assist them.

The written comment deadline was November 17, 2025, and no written comments were received.

No substantive changes were made to the adopted rule from the proposed rule, but typographical, punctuation, and grammatical errors were fixed; two out-of-place paragraphs were moved; the dismissal reasons were reordered; three documentation requirements were made clearer; several inconsistencies were fixed; one cross-reference to an attachment to other policies was corrected; and one internal cross-reference was added.