

**MAINE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS**  
**SUMMARY OF AND RESPONSES TO PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Chapter Number and Title of Rule: Ch. 15, Domestic Violence Intervention Program Certification (formerly Batterer Intervention Program Certification)

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The Department of Corrections provided notification of rulemaking to interested persons on August 5, 2024 and posted notification on the Department's website on August 5, 2024, and the Secretary of State's rule-making ad was published on August 14, 2024.

A public hearing was not scheduled.

The comment deadline was September 16, 2024, and comments were received from only one person, Jan M. Collins, MPAC Assistant Director.

COMMENT: Ms. Collins wondered if the retention of the term "battered women's movement" in section 3.3.A.2 was an oversight

RESPONSE: It was not an oversight. This is the historically accurate name of the self-advocacy effort made by victims of domestic violence.

COMMENT: Ms. Collins said she was surprised to find that restorative justice organizations and practices are not included in the section 2.1.B list of organizations consulted by DOC and/or the section 3.2.B list of organizations Domestic Violence Intervention Programs are encouraged to consult. She said that restorative processes would be a step beyond what is currently available for healing harm. It is not for everyone, but should be part of the discussion.

RESPONSE: Domestic Violence Intervention Programs are education programs, not healing programs, and that is why there is no mention of restorative justice.