

Agricultural Workers Minimum Wage Committee

Remote Participation Policy

The Agricultural Workers Minimum Wage Committee (the Committee) will meet from September to November 2023, with approximately half of its meetings held in person and the other half held remotely. **When meetings are held in person, Committee members are strongly encouraged to attend in person to maximize learning, communication, and collaboration.**

The Committee allows participation by the public in its meetings by remote methods in accordance with the Freedom of Access Act (FOAA), 1 MRS §403-B(1). Members of the Committee are also permitted to participate by remote methods as outlined in 1 MRS §403-B(2).

"Remote methods" means telephonic or video technology allowing simultaneous reception of information and may include other means when such means are necessary to provide reasonable accommodation to a person with a disability. Reasonable accommodations may be provided when necessary to provide access to individuals with disabilities.

Members of the public will be provided a meaningful opportunity to attend by remote methods when members of the Committee participate by remote methods, and reasonable accommodations may be provided when necessary to provide access to individuals with disabilities. Auxiliary aids and services will be provided upon request. If special services, assistance, or accommodations to participate in a meeting is needed, please contact Dillon Murray, Dillon.F.Murray@maine.gov least two weeks in advance so arrangements can be made.

When the Committee provides an opportunity for public input during a meeting, an effective means of communication between the members of the Committee and the public will be provided, such as access to a microphone, chat feature, or other method.

Notice of the meetings will be provided as required by FOAA, 1 MRS §406. Meeting notices will include the means by which members of the public may access the meeting using remote methods. For individuals with disabilities seeking a reasonable accommodation, the notice will identify the specific individual to contact about arranging for the accommodation (Dillon Murray, Dillon.F.Murray@maine.gov). The notice will also identify a location for members of the public to attend in person. The Committee may determine that public attendance at a proceeding will be limited solely to remote methods only if an emergency or urgent situation exists that requires the Committee to meet by remote methods.

The Committee will make all documents and other materials considered by the Committee available, electronically or otherwise, to the public who attend by remote methods to the same extent customarily available to members of the public who attend the proceedings of the public body in person, as long as additional costs are not incurred by the Committee.