

Meeting of the Maine Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Authority

Tuesday September 9, 2025, 9:00 a.m.

Frances Perkins Room, 45 Commerce Drive, Augusta ME

Authority members in attendance:

- Maria Fox, Chair (Remote)
- David Barber
- Christina Bonney
- Robert Carey (Remote)
- Douglas Cotnoir
- Sarah Conroy
- Ranae L'Italien
- Jay Naliboff, MD
- Kimberly Smith
- Jenni Tilton-Flood
- Benjamin Grant
- Brieanna Gutierrez (Remote)
- Christopher Washburn

Staff members in attendance:

- Deputy Director Reggie Parson
- Finance and Audit Division Director Tim Applegate
- AAG Nancy Macirowski
- Senior Hearings Examiner Judith Shaw
- Management Analyst II Safiya Khalid
- Office Associate Heather Grout

Authority Member Bonney welcomed attendees and opened public comments for members of the public present in person and online.

The following individuals gave public comments:

IN PERSON:

- Representative Kristen Cloutier
- Joe Edwards
- Bruce Gerrity
- Louise Wilkinson
- Randy Place
- Patrick Woodcock
- Destie Hohman Sprague

- Nate Cloutier
- Robert Bradley

ONLINE:

- Nancy Morris
- John Costin
- Sydney Avita
- Grace Denker
- Ronny Flannery
- Patty Kidder
- Carrie Jadud
- Cassie Nedwell
- Jack Bjorn

Authority Member Bonney closed public comment.

The Authority recessed at 10:37 a.m. and reconvened at 10:52 a.m.

Authority Member Bonney opened the floor for Authority Members to discuss the public comments received and to discuss whether the Authority wants to advance ideas for future legislation. The Authority Members expressed appreciation for the comments and discussed ways to monitor the progress of the program implementation which can inform the Authority's decisions about future improvements or legislation. The consensus was to ask the Department what data is being collected or is expected to be collected so the Authority can provide input on additional information it would like the Department to consider collecting and reporting on. Additionally, Authority Members noted several comments that appeared to demonstrate ongoing confusion with some of the provisions in the law and rule. Authority Members encouraged the Department to continue its outreach efforts, noting some topics raised by public commenters for consideration.

The Authority Members reached a consensus not to put forward legislation this session. Instead, Members agreed to give the program an opportunity to be fully implemented, gather data, and reassess at a later time.

Director Parson reminded members of the timeline for the actuarial presentation. The next meeting of the Authority is November 4, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. There will not be a meeting in December which will give Authority Members time to receive and digest the actuarial study report. The actuarial presentation on the study will be during the January meeting.

Authority Member Tilton-Flood moved to adjourn, seconded by Authority Member Conroy. The Authority voted unanimously to adjourn at 12:11 p.m.