**NOTICE OF STATE AGENCY RULEMAKING**

**PUBLIC INPUT FOR RULES** A list of state agency rule proposals is published here each Wednesday. You can get a copy of a proposed rule by contacting the person listed in the notice. You can comment on a proposed rule by submitting a written comment to the agency or by attending the public hearing, if one is scheduled. If no hearing is scheduled, you can request one.  The agency must hold a hearing if it receives 5 or more requests.  If you have a disability and need assistance to participate in a hearing you should tell the agency at least 7 days before the hearing. **ONLINE INFORMATION** Weekly notices, full text of adopted rules, and a list of agency rulemaking contacts are available at this website: [https://www.maine.gov/sos/cec/rules/index.html](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.maine.gov%2Fsos%2Fcec%2Frules%2Findex.html&data=05%7C02%7CJ.Chris.Parr%40maine.gov%7C645b27059f0346864d7008dc94834bf0%7C413fa8ab207d4b629bcdea1a8f2f864e%7C0%7C0%7C638548538834447354%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=K93i9Iukz%2F4M1hnG1XnmVSNiEpRD2zB99vb6RheIZ8A%3D&reserved=0)

**PROPOSALS**

**AGENCY: 16-633 Department of Public Safety, Gambling Control Board**

**CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE: Ch. 19-A, Criteria for Independent Laboratory Certification**

**TYPE OF RULE: Routine Technical**

**PROPOSAL FILING NUMBER: 2025-P059**

**BRIEF SUMMARY:** This rule implements the recent change in Maine law requiring the Gambling Control Board in cooperation with the Department of Public Safety to approve qualified independent laboratories for certification of slot machines and associated equipment from distributors and service vendors.

**PUBLIC HEARING**: None applicable

**COMMENT DEADLINE:** 11:59 P.M. Friday, May 30, 2025

**CONTACT PERSON FOR THIS FILING**: Milton Champion, 45 Commerce Drive, Suite 3, Augusta ME 04333-0087 207-626-3901 milton.f.champion@maine.gov

**CONTACT PERSON FOR SMALL BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT** *(if different)*: N/A

**FINANCIAL IMPACT ON MUNICIPALITIES OR COUNTIES** *(if any)*: N/A

**STATUTORY AUTHORITY FOR THIS RULE:** 8 M.R.S. § 1020 (4).

**SUBSTANTIVE STATE OR FEDERAL LAW BEING IMPLEMENTED** *(if different)*: N/A

**AGENCY WEBSITE:** <https://www.maine.gov/dps/gamb-control/>

**EMAIL FOR OVERALL AGENCY RULEMAKING LIAISON:** milton.f.champion@maine.gov

**AGENCY: 09-137 Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife**

**CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE: Ch. 17, Trapping (Furbearers and Trapping)**

**TYPE OF RULE: Routine Technical**

**PROPOSAL FILING NUMBER: 2025-P060**

**BRIEF SUMMARY:** The Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife is proposing changes to Chapter 17 rules to adjust the time limits to register furbearer pelts by trappers, clarify the requirements for exclusion devices, and adjust the areas open or closed to beaver trapping. The proposed rules will have an effective date of 7/1/2025 to keep the chapter consistent with changes that were previously adopted in filing 2024-251 with an effective date of 7/1/2025. Please contact the agency contact person for a complete copy of the rule proposal.

**PUBLIC HEARING**: May 22, 2025 @ 4:00pm – Inland Fisheries & Wildlife, 353 Water St., 3rd floor conference room, Augusta, ME

**COMMENT DEADLINE:** June 2, 2025

**CONTACT PERSON FOR THIS FILING**: Becky Orff, Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, 353 Water Street 41 SHS, Augusta, ME 04333; phone: 207-287-5202; fax: 207-287-6395; e-mail: Becky.Orff@maine.gov

**CONTACT PERSON FOR SMALL BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT** *(if different)*:

**FINANCIAL IMPACT ON MUNICIPALITIES OR COUNTIES** *(if any)*: No fiscal impact anticipated.

**STATUTORY AUTHORITY FOR THIS RULE:** 12 MRS 10104, 12251, 12301-A

**SUBSTANTIVE STATE OR FEDERAL LAW BEING IMPLEMENTED** *(if different)*:

**AGENCY WEBSITE:** [www.maine.gov/ifw](http://www.maine.gov/ifw)

**EMAIL FOR OVERALL AGENCY RULEMAKING LIAISON:** Becky.Orff@maine.gov

**AGENCY: 01-672 Department of Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry, Maine Land Use Planning Commission
CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE: Ch. 15, Guidelines for Private Roads or Ways in the Land Use Planning Commission’s Management Districts**

**TYPE OF RULE: Routine Technical**

**PROPOSAL FILING NUMBER: 2025-P061**

**BRIEF SUMMARY:** The Maine Land Use Planning Commission is proposing to repeal Chapter 15 as it is inconsistent with the Commission’s authority over forestry-related uses, including land management roads in management districts. Other road construction, repair, and relocation activities are addressed by Chapter 10 of the Commission’s rules.

**PUBLIC HEARING:** NA; no hearing is scheduled*.*

**COMMENT DEADLINE:** Written comments must be submitted on or prior to June 16, 2025

**CONTACT PERSON FOR THIS FILING**: Name: Tim Beaucage; Mailing Address: 22 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333; Email: timothy.beaucage@maine.gov; Telephone: 207-931-6974; Fax: 207-287-7439; TTY: 711

**CONTACT PERSON FOR SMALL BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT** *(if different)*: NA

**FINANCIAL IMPACT ON MUNICIPALITIES OR COUNTIES** *(if any)*: No financial impact anticipated.

**STATUTORY AUTHORITY FOR THIS RULE:** 12 M.R.S. §§ 685-A(3); 685-A(7-A); 685-A(14); 685-B(1-A)(B); and 685-C(5)

**SUBSTANTIVE STATE OR FEDERAL LAW BEING IMPLEMENTED** *(if different)*: NA

**AGENCY WEBSITE:** [www.maine.gov/DACF/lupc/index.shtml](http://www.maine.gov/DACF/lupc/index.shtml)

**E-MAIL FOR OVERALL AGENCY RULE-MAKING LIAISON:** Stacie.R.Beyer@maine.gov

**AGENCY: 99-346 Maine State Housing Authority**

**CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE: Ch. 24, Home Energy Assistance Program**

**TYPE OF RULE: Routine Technical**

**PROPOSAL FILING NUMBER: 2025-P062**

**BRIEF SUMMARY:** This replacement rule repeals and replaces in its entirety the current Home Energy Assistance Program Rule. The Rule establishes standards for administering fuel assistance, emergency fuel assistance, TANF Supplemental Benefits, weatherization, heat pumps, and heating system repair and replacement funds to low-income households in the State of Maine. This replacement rule changes the ECIP component to one benefit instance per program year, makes minor changes to documentation requirements for citizenship, identity and social security number verification, increases the allowable time to return documentation for an application, updates income documentation and incorporates language to provide clarity and continuity between the rule and the State Plan, adds direct checks for clients that use Wood Pellets, Corn, and Bio-Bricks, and adds a quality control requirement for direct checks, edits the CHIP uses language to eliminate specific repairs, adds clarification for the solicitation and use of price quotes for CHIP repairs, and makes minor formatting and grammar edits.

**PUBLIC HEARING:** A public hearing will be held on Tuesday, May 20, 2025 at 9:30 a.m. at Maine State Housing Authority, 26 Edison Drive, Augusta, Maine. To listen or testify virtually, please contact the Board Administrator prior to the hearing at MaineHousing, 26 Edison Drive, Augusta, Maine 04330-6046; (207) 626-4600 (voice); 1-800-452-4668 (voice in state only); or 711 (Maine Relay) or via e-mail: BoardAdmin@mainehousing.org. Upon sufficient notice, appropriate communications auxiliary aids and services will be provided to persons with disabilities and persons with limited English proficiency.

**COMMENT DEADLINE:** Friday, May 30, 2025 at 5:00 PM

**CONTACT PERSON FOR THIS FILING:** Ashley Carson, Chief Counsel, Maine State Housing Authority, State House Station #89, 26 Edison Drive, Augusta, Maine 04330-6046, (207) 626-4600 (telephone), (800) 452-4668 (voice in state only) or Maine Relay 711, acarson@mainehousing.org (e-mail). Upon sufficient notice, this notice and the proposed rule will be made available in alternative formats for persons with disabilities and in alternative languages for persons with limited English proficiency.

**CONTACT PERSON FOR SMALL BUSINESS INFORMATION (if different):** Same as Contact Person

**FINANCIAL IMPACT ON MUNICIPALITIES OR COUNTIES (if any):** None

**STATUTORY AUTHORITY FOR THIS RULE:** 30-A M.R.S. §§4722(1)(W), 4741 (1) and (15), and 4991 et seq.; 42 U.S.C.A. §§8621, et seq.

**SUBSTANTIVE STATE OR FEDERAL LAW BEING IMPLEMENTED (if different):** Same as above

A copy of the proposed replacement rule may be found at <https://www.mainehousing.org/about/rules>

**E-MAIL FOR OVERALL AGENCY RULE-MAKING LIAISON:** acarson@mainehousing.org

**AGENCY: 12-179 Department of Labor, Board of Occupational Safety and Health**

**CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE: Ch. 3, Occupational Safety and Health Standards for Construction Industry Employment in the Public Sector**

**TYPE OF RULE: Routine Technical**

**PROPOSAL FILING NUMBER: 2025-P064**

**BRIEF SUMMARY:** The purpose of this chapter is to incorporate by reference certain rules governing Occupational Safety and Health in construction industry employment as promulgated by the Federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration at 29 CFR Part 1926 as most recently amended as of January 13, 2025. This change updates the construction standard to require personal protective equipment (PPE) to properly fit the employee.

The proposed rule would also repeal the reference to the 2009 edition of the *Manual for Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD)*. This is because the federal rule change being adopted now includes reference to the 2009 edition of the MUTCD instead of the 2000 edition.

The rule would also add a periodic medical evaluation to this section and would mirror a requirement set forth in the general industry standards to make it clear requirement also exists for the construction industry in the public sector.

**DETAILED SUMMARY:**

The purpose of this chapter is to incorporate by reference certain rules governing Occupational Safety and Health in construction industry employment as promulgated by the Federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration at 29 CFR Part 1926 as most recently amended as of January 13, 2025. This change updates the construction standard to require personal protective equipment (PPE) to properly fit the employee.

The proposed rule would also repeal the reference to the 2009 edition of the *Manual for Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD)*. This is because the federal rule change being adopted now includes reference to the 2009 edition of the MUTCD instead of the 2000 edition.

The rule would also add a periodic medical evaluation to this section and would mirror a requirement set forth in the general industry standards to make it clear requirement also exists for the construction industry in the public sector.

**PUBLIC HEARING** *(if any)*: None, unless requested pursuant to 5 M.R.S. § 8052(1).

**COMMENT DEADLINE:** Monday, June 2, 2025

**CONTACT PERSON FOR THIS FILING:**

Isaac H. Gingras

Department of Labor

54 State House Station

Augusta, Maine 04333-0054

207-626-6232

Isaac.H.Gingras@maine.gov

**CONTACT PERSON FOR SMALL BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT** *(if different)*: N/A

**FINANCIAL IMPACT ON MUNICIPALITIES OR COUNTIES** *(if any)*: N/A

**STATUTORY AUTHORITY FOR THIS RULE:** 26 M.R.S. §565

**SUBSTANTIVE STATE OR FEDERAL LAW BEING IMPLEMENTED** *(if different)*: N/A

**AGENCY WEBSITE:** <http://www.maine.gov/labor/rulemaking>

**EMAIL FOR OVERALL AGENCY RULEMAKING LIAISON:** Isaac.H.Gingras@maine.gov

**AGENCY: 10-144 Department of Human Services, Office for Family Independence**

**CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE: Ch. 607, ASPIRE-TANF Program Rules (All Sections**

**ASPIRE 29P – LIFT)**

**TYPE OF RULE: Routine Technical**

**PROPOSAL FILING NUMBER: 2025-P065**

**BRIEF SUMMARY:** The proposed rule changes would update the ASPIRE-TANF Program rules to ensure services provided are trauma-informed, culturally and linguistically appropriate and consistent with a legislative change to 22 M.R.S. §§ 3762(A-1), 3788, and 3790 made by P.L. 2021, Chapter 648 Part 5. The Department held a listening session on September 21, 2023 for current and former participants in the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program and community partners. Feedback from the listening session was incorporated in the development of the proposed rule changes.

Consistent with 22 M.R.S. § 3769-A, the Department proposes non-substantive changes throughout the manual for clarity and inclusivity. The proposed rule changes are intended to improve the readability of the manual, reduce stigma inducing language, and remove outdated terminology, references and/or procedures. Including “Centers for the treatment of substance use disorders” would replace “Substance Abuse Treatment Centers.” In the interest of inclusivity, the proposed rule changes would convert gender specific terms to gender neutral terms. Further, throughout the manual, TANF has been removed from ASPIRE-TANF references and Administrative Hearings Unit has been updated to Division of Administrative Hearings. The proposed rule changes are intended to further align this rule with 10-144, C.M.R. Ch. 331 to better meet the needs of ASPIRE Participants.

In addition, any outdated terminology would be removed throughout the manual and where applicable updated terminology would be added.

Further, proposed changes include:

* SECTION 2: AUTHORIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION would remove II. “Philosophy” and III. “Goals, and Objectives” as these are outlined throughout the manual.
* SECTION 5: WORK EVALUATION PROCESS would be updated to provide clarity on the initial Assessment process.
* SECTION 7: FAMILY CONTRACT AMENDMENT (FCA) would be updated to provide clarity on potential eligibility for support services and requests for a new FCA.
* SECTION 13: EMPLOYMENT would remove IV. DISPLACED EMPLOYEE GRIEVANCES. Employees of businesses or organizations have their own dispute/grievance processes and outside the scope of the DHHS, Division of Administrative Hearings.
* SECTION 14: SUPPORT SERVICE BENEFITS AND PAYMENT PROVISIONS would be updated consistent with other Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Family Independence employment and training programs.
* SECTION 16: PARENTS AS SCHOLARS would clarify pre-matriculation services which may be available to PaS participants.
* SECTION 17: TANF TIME LIMIT EXTENSIONS would be updated consistent with 10-144 C.M.R. Ch. 331.

**PUBLIC HEARING** *(if any)*: Tuesday, May 20, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. in room Maine A/B at109 Capitol St., Augusta, ME 04330. Please note, guest parking is available on the Capitol Street side of the building and where guests may enter the building. The Department requests any interested party that requires special arrangements to attend the hearing, or requires special accommodations, such as interpreter services, contact the agency person listed above before Wednesday, May 14, 2025.

**COMMENT DEADLINE:** Monday, June 2, 2025 at 5:00pm, Eastern Time.

**CONTACT PERSON FOR THIS FILING**:

Dawn Croteau, ASPIRE Program Manager

Department of Health and Human Services

Office for Family Independence

109 Capitol Street

Augusta, ME 04330-6841

Phone: (207) 624-6968/Fax: (207) 287-3455

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Dawn.Croteau@maine.gov

**CONTACT PERSON FOR SMALL BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT** *(if different)*: N/A.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT ON MUNICIPALITIES OR COUNTIES** *(if any)*: The estimated cost of required support services in the proposed rule is $495,171 in the Block Grant for State Fiscal Year 2024 and for each subsequent year.

**STATUTORY AUTHORITY FOR THIS RULE:** 22 M.R.S. §§ 42(1), 3762(A-1) 3769-A.

**SUBSTANTIVE STATE OR FEDERAL LAW BEING IMPLEMENTED** *(if different)*: Proposed rule changes are consistent with P.L. 2021, Chapter 648.

**AGENCY WEBSITE**: <https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/ofi>

**EMAIL FOR OVERALL AGENCY RULEMAKING LIAISON**: Emily.A.Cathcart@maine.gov

**ADOPTIONS**

**AGENCY: 65-407 Maine Public Utilities Commission**

**CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE: Ch. 6, Requirements for Public Safety Answering Point and Dispatch Center Annual Reports Regarding Costs to Provision Enhanced 9-1-1 Services**

**ADOPTION FILING NUMBER: 2025-100**

**CONCISE SUMMARY:**

The Public Utilities Commission adopts a new rule to implement recently enacted legislation, P.L. 2023, ch. 609. Annually, by rule, a public safety answering point and dispatch center shall each provide the bureau with a report of the costs incurred by the public safety answering point or dispatch center for the provision of enhanced 9-1-1 services.

**EFFECTIVE DATE**: **Wednesday, April 30, 2025**

**AGENCY CONTACT PERSON:** Pam Kowalchuk, pamela.kowalchuk@maine.gov

AGENCY NAME: Public Utilities Commission

ADDRESS: 18 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0018

TELEPHONE: 207-287-1564

**AGENCY: 10-144 Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Family Independence**

**CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE: Ch. 332, MaineCare Eligibility Manual (Part 9: LIMITED BENEFITS GROUP and Chart 3.8: Premiums for Special Benefits Waiver [Maine Section 1115 Health Care Reform Demonstration for Individuals with HIV/AIDS]; MaineCare Rule #312P –** **Part 9 and Chart 3.8 Premium Updates)**

**ADOPTION FILING NUMBER: 2025-101**

**CONCISE SUMMARY:**

The adopted rule effectuates updates to Part 9: LIMITED BENEFITS GROUPS and Chart 3.8: Premiums for Special Benefits Waiver [Maine Section 1115 Health Care Reform Demonstration for Individuals with HIV/AIDS]. The adopted rule change provides clarity and increases accessibility for readers.

The adopted rule updated Part 9, Section 1(2) Premiums as follows:

* “Premiums are set by the Office of MaineCare Services and increase 5% annually on January 1st”.
* “Starting January 1, 2025, premium amounts due are posted online at <https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/ofi/programs-services/health-care-assistance>.” replaced “See Chart 3.8 for premium amounts due.”
* 2(A) “$37.73” replaced “$35.93” and “$415.03 replaced “$395.23.”

For consistency and clarification, Part 9 was updated as follows:

* “250%” replaced “250 percent”
* “Medicare” replaced “other benefits”
* “1st” replaced “first” for the first day of a calendar month.

The adopted rule removed Chart 3.8 – Premiums for Special Benefits Waiver [Maine Section 1115 Health Care Reform Demonstration for Individuals with HIV/AIDS] from the charts and appendices. In addition, the adopted rule added “Effective January 1, 2025, amounts due are posted online at <https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/ofi/programs-services/health-care-assistance>.” Further, “For additional information, see 10-144 Chapter 332; Part 9, Limited Benefit Group, Section 1(2) Premiums for Special Benefit Waiver” was added.

Retroactive rulemaking is permissible under 22 M.R.S. § 42(8) as the adopted rule update does not negatively affect reimbursement or other payments, benefits or services for Special Benefits Waiver recipients under the rules previously in effect.

**See** [**https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/about/rulemaking**](https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/about/rulemaking) **for rules and related rulemaking documents.**

**EFFECTIVE DATE: Tuesday, April 29, 2025**

**AGENCY CONTACT PERSON:**

Adam Hooper, MaineCare Program Manager

Office for Family Independence

Department of Health & Human Services

109 Capitol Street

Augusta, ME 04333

Phone: (207) 441-4916/Fax: (207) 287-3455

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**Adam.Hooper@maine.gov**

**AGENCY: 01-015 Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Maine Milk Commission**

**CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE: Ch. 3, Schedule of Minimum Prices (Order#05-25)**

**ADOPTION FILING NUMBER: 2025-102**

**CONCISE SUMMARY:**

The Minimum May 2025 Class I price is $21.62/cwt. plus $1.63/cwt. for Producer Margins, an over-order premium of $1.04/cwt as prevailing in Southern New England, and a $0.47/cwt. handling fee, for a total of **$24.96/cwt**., which includes a $0**.20**/cwt Federal promotion fee.

**EFFECTIVE DATE: Sunday, May 4, 2025**

**AGENCY CONTACT PERSON:** Julie-Marie R. Bickford

AGENCY NAME: Maine Milk Commission, DACF

ADDRESS: 28 SHS, Augusta, ME 04333

TELEPHONE: 207-287-7521

**AGENCY: 10-146 Department of Health and Human Services, Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention**

**CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE: Ch. 1, Transportation, Storage and Final Disposition of Dead Bodies Rule**

**ADOPTION FILING NUMBER: 2025-103**

**CONCISE SUMMARY:**

This rule adoption includes the additional $5.00 fee for burial-transit permits issued for the transportation, temporary storage, disinterment, or final disposition of a dead human body, pursuant to Public Law 2023, chapter 677, section 4, and replaces the outdated reference to a repealed statute (30 MRS § 2352) with the correctly referenced statute, 30-A MRS § 2652. Additionally, the amended rule includes technical changes to the format to conform to agency standards. The Department is coordinating this rulemaking with 10-146 CMR Chapter 7, to ensure that the legislatively mandated burial-transit permit fee is reflected in rules containing charges for the permit.

**EFFECTIVE DATE: Wednesday, April 30, 2025**

**AGENCY CONTACT PERSON:**

NAME: Andrew Hardy

ADDRESS: 11 SHS - 286 Water Street, Augusta, ME 04333-0011

TELEPHONE: (207) 287-4490

E-MAIL ADDRESS: andrew.hardy@maine.gov

AGENCY WEBSITE: <http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/rules/>

<https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/about/rulemaking>

**AGENCY: 10-146 Department of Health and Human Services, Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention**

**CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE: Ch. 7, Vital Records Fees**

**ADOPTION FILING NUMBER: 2025-104**

**CONCISE SUMMARY:**

Maine’s Department of Health and Human Services Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention is adopting this rule to coincide with the expiration of the rule adopted on an emergency basis (effective January 31, 2025), ensuring the additional $5.00 for burial-transit permits issued in Maine remains in rule as required by Public Law 2023, Chapter 677, § 4.

This routine technical rule adopts changes that reflect the collection of an additional $5.00 above the current fee charged for the permit required for the transportation, temporary storage, disinterment, or final disposition of a dead human body, which is in accordance with 13 MRS § 1374. This fee collection must be deposited into the Cemetery Preservation Fund and used to support the Maine State Preservation Commission. Additional rule changes include technical amendments to conform to agency format standards. This rulemaking is concurrent with related Chapter 1 rulemaking that also proposes this vital records fee change.

**EFFECTIVE DATE: Wednesday, April 30, 2025**

**AGENCY CONTACT PERSON:**

NAME: Andrew Hardy

ADDRESS: 11 SHS - 286 Water Street, Augusta, ME 04333-0011

TELEPHONE: (207) 287-4490

E-MAIL ADDRESS: andrew.hardy@maine.gov

AGENCY WEBSITE: <http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/rules/>

<https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/about/rulemaking>