**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: 94-411 Maine Public Employees Retirement System**

**CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE: Ch. 803, Participating Local District Consolidated Retirement Plan**

**TYPE OF RULE: Routine Technical**

**PROPOSAL FILING NUMBER: 2025-P090**

**BRIEF SUMMARY:** This chapter establishes a consolidated retirement plan, as required by 5 M.R.S. §18801 *et seq*. for local districts that are participating local districts under 5 M.R.S., Chapter 425. The proposed amended rule eliminates of the reduction of disability retirement benefits due to receipt of Social Security benefits for the same condition.

**PUBLIC HEARING** *(if any)*:

July 10, 2025, 10:30 AM

Maine Public Employees Retirement System

139 Capitol Street

Augusta, ME 04332

**COMMENT DEADLINE:** July 21, 2025

**CONTACT PERSON FOR THIS FILING:**

Bill Brown, Director of Actuarial and Legislative Affairs

Maine Public Employees Retirement System

P.O. Box 349

Augusta, ME 04332

1-800-451-9800 or (207) 512-3100

[bill.brown@mainepers.org](mailto:bill.brown@mainepers.org)

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

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

**STATUTORY AUTHORITY FOR THIS RULE:** 5 M.R.S. §§ 17103(4), 18200 *et seq*., 18801 *et seq*

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

**AGENCY WEBSITE:** [www.mainepers.org](http://www.mainepers.org)

**EMAIL FOR OVERALL AGENCY RULEMAKING LIAISON:** [bill.brown@mainepers.org](mailto:bill.brown@mainepers.org)

**AGENCY: 94-411 Maine Public Employees Retirement System**

**CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE: Ch. 513, Disability Retirement Compensation Limitations and Benefit Offsets**

**TYPE OF RULE: Routine Technical**

**PROPOSAL FILING NUMBER: 2025-P091**

**BRIEF SUMMARY:** This rule provides guidance on disability compensation limits and benefit offsets. The proposed amended rules eliminates reference to the offset of disability retirement benefits and compensation limits for Social Security benefits received by a member for the same condition.

**PUBLIC HEARING** *(if any)*: July 10, 10:30 AM

Maine Public Employees Retirement System

139 Capitol Street

Augusta, ME 04332

**COMMENT DEADLINE:** July 21, 2025

**CONTACT PERSON FOR THIS FILING:**

Bill Brown, Director of Actuarial and Legislative Affairs

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

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

**STATUTORY AUTHORITY FOR THIS RULE:** 5 M.R.S. § 17103(4)

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

**AGENCY WEBSITE:** [www.mainepers.org](http://www.mainepers.org)

**EMAIL FOR OVERALL AGENCY RULEMAKING LIAISON:** [bill.brown@mainepers.org](mailto:bill.brown@mainepers.org)

**AGENCY: 94-411 Maine Public Employees Retirement System**

**CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE: Ch. 803, Participating Local District Consolidated Retirement Plan**

**TYPE OF RULE: Routine Technical**

**PROPOSAL FILING NUMBER: 2025-P092**

**BRIEF SUMMARY:** This chapter establishes a consolidated retirement plan, as required by 5 M.R.S. §18801 *et seq*. for local districts that are participating local districts under 5 M.R.S., Chapter 425. The proposed amended rule eliminates of the reduction of disability retirement benefits due to receipt of Social Security benefits for the same condition.

**PUBLIC HEARING** *(if any)*:

July 10, 2025, 10:30 AM

Maine Public Employees Retirement System

139 Capitol Street

Augusta, ME 04332

**COMMENT DEADLINE:** July 21, 2025

**CONTACT PERSON FOR THIS FILING:**

Bill Brown, Director of Actuarial and Legislative Affairs

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

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

**STATUTORY AUTHORITY FOR THIS RULE:** 5 M.R.S. §§ 17103(4), 18200 *et seq*., 18801 *et seq*

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

**AGENCY WEBSITE:** [www.mainepers.org](http://www.mainepers.org)

**EMAIL FOR OVERALL AGENCY RULEMAKING LIAISON:** [bill.brown@mainepers.org](mailto:bill.brown@mainepers.org)

**ADOPTIONS**

**AGENCY: 12-180 Department of Labor, Maine Labor Relations Board**

**CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE: Ch. 10, General Rules**

**ADOPTION FILING NUMBER: 2025-127**

**CONCISE SUMMARY:**

The Maine Labor Relations Board has amended Chapter 10 of its rules to allow for the electronic filing of signed Showing of Interest and Employee Authorization forms.

**EFFECTIVE DATE**: **Monday, June 16, 2025**

**AGENCY CONTACT PERSON:** Henry Fouts

AGENCY NAME: Maine Labor Relations Board

ADDRESS: 90 SHS, Augusta, ME 04330

TELEPHONE: (207) 287-2015

**AGENCY: 12-180 Department of Labor, Maine Labor Relations Board**

**CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE: Ch. 11, Bargaining Unit Composition and Representation Matters**

**ADOPTION FILING NUMBER: 2025-128**

**CONCISE SUMMARY:**

The Maine Labor Relations Board has amended Chapter 11 of its rules to allow for the electronic filing of signed Showing of Interest and Employee Authorization forms and to conform the Board’s rules to several recently enacted laws permitting majority-sign up petitions under all of the laws administered by the Board; providing for a bargaining agent merger process; and clarifying that new employees are eligible for collective bargaining. The rule changes also clarify that Board postings of notices, including notices of elections and sample ballots, are posted electronically on the Board’s website as opposed to being physically posted at the Board’s office.

**EFFECTIVE DATE**: **Monday, June 16, 2025**

**AGENCY CONTACT PERSON:** Henry Fouts

AGENCY NAME: Maine Labor Relations Board

ADDRESS: 90 SHS, Augusta, ME 04330

TELEPHONE: (207) 287-2015

**AGENCY:** **06-096 Department of Environmental Protection**

**CHAPTER NUMBERS AND TITLES:**

* **Ch. 305, Natural Resources Protection Act – Permit by Rule Standards**
* **Ch. 310, Wetlands and Waterbodies Protection**

**ADOPTION FILING NUMBERS: 2025-129 (Ch. 305), 2025-130 (Ch. 310)**

**CONCISE SUMMARY:**

This rule revision amends Chapter 305 Natural Resources Protection Act (NRPA) Permit by Rule Standards and the Chapter 310 Wetlands and Waterbodies Protection rules in order to:

* encourage nature-based shoreline stabilization methods using vegetation and biodegradable stabilization materials;
* place appropriate limits on the use of hardened stabilization structures like riprap and seawalls to ensure project impacts are reasonable and to address cumulative impacts; and
* simplify and speed up the permitting process for applicants and the Department.

The rule revision also implements two laws passed by the 131st Legislature, which allow for the use of biodegradable stabilization methods for sand dune restoration (P.L. 2023 ch. 97) and allow for increasing the height of piers, wharves and docks when these structures are replaced through permit by rule (P.L. 2023 ch. 531). Other changes include expanding the non-development activities allowed through permit by rule in coastal sand dune systems, increasing the time limit for processing NRPA permit by rule applications to the statutory timeline of 20 working days, and updating erosion and sedimentation control standards throughout Chapter 305 to reflect current best practices.

**EFFECTIVE DATE**: **Tuesday, June 17, 2025**

**AGENCY CONTACT PERSON:**

Naomi Kirk-Lawlor

17 State House Station

Augusta, Me 04333

Phone: 207-287-7844

[naomi.kirk-lawlor@maine.gov](mailto:naomi.kirk-lawlor@maine.gov)

**AGENCY:** **02-041 Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Office of Professional and Occupational Regulation**

**CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE: Ch. 10, Establishment of License Fees**

**ADOPTION FILING NUMBER: 2025-131**

**CONCISE SUMMARY:**

The adopted rule will allow the Board of Pharmacy to charge a fee for a new license category for “Certificate of Authorization” for pharmacists who qualify to “prescribe, dispense, and administer contraceptives. The rule will allow license fees of the Board of Alcohol and Drug Counselors to cover the full cost of the board’s regulatory program. Fees of this board have not been increased since 2004. The proposed fee increase is well within the statutory fee cap for the program of $200.

**EFFECTIVE DATE**: **Saturday, June 21, 2025**

**AGENCY CONTACT PERSON:** Penny Vaillancourt [penny.vaillancourt@maine.gov](mailto:Joan.cohen@maine.gov)

AGENCY NAME: Office of Professional and Occupational Regulation

ADDRESS: 35 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333

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