**State of Maine: Notice of Agency Rulemaking: Wednesday, December 11, 2024 ONLINE**

**NOTICE OF STATE 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)

**NOTICE**

**AGENCY: 29-250 - Department of Secretary of State, Bureau of Corporations, Elections and Commissions
SUBJECT: Request for Comments on the *Maine Administrative Procedure Act*(APA)**
**CONCISE SUMMARY:** By the end of January 2025, the Secretary of State must file an annual report to the Governor and the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government regarding the *Administrative Procedure Act*. The purpose of this notice is to solicit, from state agencies and the public, recommendations for improvements to the rulemaking process. We will include a summary on these recommendations in the report and written comments that are received will be appended to the report. Please submit written comments via email or U.S. postal mail.
**STATUTORY AUTHORITY:** 5 M.R.S. Sec. 8056-A
**PUBLIC HEARING:** None
**DEADLINE FOR COMMENTS:** 5 PM Friday, January 24, 2025
**AGENCY CONTACT PERSON:** Melissa Packard, Department of Secretary of State, 184 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333. Telephone: (207) 624-7650. Fax: (207) 287-6545. Email: Rulemaking.CEC@maine.gov
**WEBSITE:** [http://www.maine.gov/sos/cec/rules/index.html](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.maine.gov%2Fsos%2Fcec%2Frules%2Findex.html&data=05%7C02%7CJ.Chris.Parr%40maine.gov%7C38d4871957a9428ff37c08dd146b6fe2%7C413fa8ab207d4b629bcdea1a8f2f864e%7C0%7C0%7C638689173846119532%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=UpgKboImDS%2FY2WF1BNTjF%2FxWb%2FXyBB%2BMhezimTTc%2FpE%3D&reserved=0).

**PROPOSALS**

**AGENCY: 02-392, Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Office of Professional and Occupational Regulation, Maine Board of Pharmacy**

**CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE: Chapter 43: Prescribing, Dispensing and Administering HIV Prevention Drugs (New)**

**TYPE OF RULE: Routine Technical**

**PROPOSED RULE NUMBER: 2024-P203**

**BRIEF SUMMARY:** Public Law 2021 Chapter 265 was enacted to establish standards authorizing pharmacists to prescribe, dispense and administer HIV prevention drugs, set adequate training requirements and protocols for when there is no prescription drug order, standing order or collaborative practice agreement. The board held a public hearing on August 1, 2024 and collected public comments on the initial set of proposed rules. From the public comment received, the board intends to adopt rules which are substantially different from the proposed rule and, therefore, the board is requesting comments from the public on the revised proposed rules, including the proposes Appendix 1 and Appendix 2 as its protocols.

**PUBLIC HEARING** *(if any)*: None

**COMMENT DEADLINE:** Friday, January 10, 2025, 5:00 p.m. (EST)

**CONTACT PERSON FOR THIS FILING:** Jeri Betts, Regulatory Board Manager, 35 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0035, 207-441-1461, TTY users call Maine Relay 711, Geraldine.L.Betts@maine.gov. When submitting written comments by email please list this in the email subject line: PH Ch 43 – 2nd Public Comments

**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:** 32 M.R.S.A. Secs. 13720, 13786-E

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

**AGENCY WEBSITE:** https://[www.maine.gov/pfr/professionallicensing/professions/board-pharmacy](http://www.maine.gov/pfr/professionallicensing/professions/board-pharmacy)

**EMAIL FOR OVERALL AGENCY RULEMAKING LIAISON:** joan.cohen@maine.gov

**AGENCY: 10-149, 14-197 Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Aging and Disability Services**

**CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE:**

**Repeal Title 14-197, Chapter 3, Definition of Mental Retardation and Autism; Appeal Procedure**

**Replace with Title 10-149, Chapter 5, Section 2, Developmental Disability Services for Adults with an Intellectual Disability or Autism Spectrum Disorder**

**TYPE OF RULE: Routine Technical**

**PROPOSED RULE NUMBER: 2024-P218 (Ch. 3), -P219 (Ch. 5)**

**BRIEF SUMMARY:**

This proposed rule previously was the subject of a public hearing, held on August 14, 2024, and a public comment period that closed on August 24, 2024. Following and more than fourteen days after the close of public comments, the Department decided to substantively amend the proposed eligibility criteria for developmental disability services set forth in the proposed rule in Secs 2.04-3(A) (for persons with an intellectual disability) and 2.04-3(B) (for persons with Autism Spectrum Disorder). Because of these changes, the Department determined that it should elicit additional public comment on the proposed rulemaking.

As noted prior to the August 14, 2024, public hearing, the purpose of the rulemaking is to clarify the application process for Developmental Services available at OADS that are supported exclusively with state funds. The rule also removes descriptions of internal agency processes regarding client intake and eligibility determination, updates the tests for determining whether an applicant has an intellectual disability (abandoning the harmful terminology of years past) and Autism Spectrum Disorder, and identifies the state-funded Developmental Disability Services available from OADS.

Specifically, this rulemaking proposes to:

* repeal 14-197 C.M.R. ch. 3 and its definitions and appeal processes;
* replace that rule with a new rule to be codified as 10-149 C.M.R. ch. 5, sec. 2;
* establish an explicit process for applying for and receiving Developmental Disability Services from OADS;
* clarify that state-funded Developmental Disability Services are distinct from and unaffected by eligibility for MaineCare services, including HCBS Waiver services for adults with an Intellectual Disability or Autism Spectrum Disorder;
* adopts specific definitions applicable to applications for state-funded Developmental Disability Services;
* updates the tests for determining whether an applicant has an intellectual disability or Autism Spectrum Disorder, in reference to the current characterizations of those disabilities in statute and in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders;
* adds requirements for providing notice of the Department’s decisions regarding applications for Developmental Disability Services;
* withdraws the current appeal process, including Director- and Commissioner-level reviews, and replaces this process with an appeal process that utilizes the administrative hearing process applicable to other state-funded and MaineCare eligibility determinations;
* adds a timeliness standard for such appeals; and
* adds a statement of the Department’s obligation to preserve the confidentiality of applications and their review and disposition.

The proposed rulemaking also would align the structure and numbering of the replacement rule with OADS’ current rulemaking format.

The regulations of the Office of Aging and Disability Services (OADS) are currently divided into two Chapters: 10-149 (formerly the Office of Elder Services) and 14-197 (formerly the Office of Adults with Cognitive and Physical Disability Services). OADS is completing the process of combining these two former State agencies into one by eliminating use of 14-197 and creating a single comprehensive OADS Policy Manual under 10-149. This rulemaking repeals the current 14-197 Chapter 3 and replaces it with 10-149, Chapter 5, Section 2: Developmental Disability Services.

The proposed rule also contains many formatting corrections, ensures use of gender-neutral language, and includes many clarifying edits.

Finally, the Department does not anticipate that this rule will have any impact on municipalities, counties, or small businesses.

See the [DHHS rulemaking webpage](https://www.maine.gov/sos/cec/rules/10/chaps10.htm) for rules and related rulemaking documents.

**PUBLIC HEARING:** The public hearing will be held at 1:30 pm Eastern Time (US and Canada) on Thursday, January 9, 2025, at the Department of Health and Human Services, 109 Capitol St., Augusta, ME. An online option is available via Zoom at: <https://mainestate.zoom.us/j/82393616812?pwd=WElGQj6g25NGLfRGO4X9xXPN3zjJ78.1>

Meeting ID: 823 9361 6812

**COMMENT DEADLINE:** The Department will accept comments via e-mail and U.S. Mail until 11:59 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada) on Sunday, January 19, 2025.

**CONTACT PERSON FOR THIS FILING:**

Esther Miller

Maine Department of Health and Human Services

Office of Aging and Disability Services

41 Anthony Avenue

Augusta, Maine 04333-0011

PHONE: 207-441-8349

EMAIL: Rulemaking.OADS@maine.gov

FAX: (207) 287-9915

TTY: 711 (Deaf or Hard of Hearing)

**CONTACT PERSON FOR SMALL BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT:** N/A

**FINANCIAL IMPACT ON MUNICIPALITIES OR COUNTIES:** The Department anticipates that this rulemaking will not have any impact on municipalities or counties.

**STATUTORY AUTHORITY FOR THIS RULE:** 22 M.R.S. Sec. 42(1); 22-A M.R.S. Sec. 205; 34-B M.R.S. Secs. 5432, 5465, and 6003

**SUBSTANTIVE STATE OR FEDERAL LAW BEING IMPLEMENTED:** N/A

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

**E-MAIL FOR OVERALL AGENCY RULE-MAKING LIAISON:** **emily.a.cathcart@maine.gov**

**AGENCY: 94-388 State Civil Service Appeals Board**

**CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE: Chapter 1: Rules of Practice and Procedure**

**TYPE OF RULE: Routine Technical**

**PROPOSED RULE NUMBER: 2024-P321**

**BRIEF SUMMARY:** The State Civil Service Appeals Board mediates employment and classification disputes between state agencies and state employees, both classified and unclassified, who are excluded from the bargaining process described in 26 MRSA §§ 979 and 1021-1034, by hearing and deciding upon appeals brought by employees against agency decisions. The purpose of this rule is to establish a set of uniform procedures and practices by which the Board will operate, process appeals, conduct hearings, communicate with parties, receive evidence and submission, and issue written decisions in accordance with the Maine Administrative Procedure Act and the Board’s specific enabling statutes.

Copies of the proposed rule are available upon request by contacting the Board contact person or on the State Civil Service Appeals Board website at:

<https://www.maine.gov/bhr/state-employees/state-civil-service-appeals-board>

Pursuant to Maine law, interested parties are publicly notified of the proposed rulemaking notified of the proposed rulemaking and are provided an opportunity for comment. Written comments may be submitted by mail, email, or fax to the contact person before the end of the comment period. To ensure the comments are considered, they must include your name and the organization you represent, if any.

**PUBLIC HEARING** *(if any)*: No Public Hearing scheduled/planned.

**COMMENT DEADLINE:** January 10, 2025 at 5:00 PM

**CONTACT PERSON FOR THIS FILING:**

Breanna M. Gorneau

Board Secretary, State Civil Service Appeals Board

Department of Administrative and Financial Services

Cross Office Building

79 State House Station

Augusta, Maine 04333-0006

Phone: (207) 287-4447

Fax: (207) 287-4452

breanna.m.gorneau@maine.gov

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

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

**STATUTORY AUTHORITY FOR THIS RULE:** 5 MRSA Secs. 7081 – 7085 and 5 MRSA Sec. 12004B

**SUBSTANTIVE STATE OR FEDERAL LAW BEING IMPLEMENTED** *(if different)*: Federal constitutional law and 5 MRSA Secs. 7081 – 7085.

**AGENCY WEBSITE:** <https://www.maine.gov/bhr/state-employees/state-civil-service-appeals-board>

**EMAIL FOR OVERALL AGENCY RULEMAKING LIAISON:** breanna.m.gorneau@maine.gov

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

**CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE: Chapter 240: Video Service Franchise Dispute Resolution**

**TYPE OF RULE: Routine Technical**

**PROPOSED RULE NUMBER: 2024-P322**

**BRIEF SUMMARY:** The Commission initiates a rulemaking to promulgate Chapter 240 – Video Service Franchise Dispute Resolution. In this Rule, the Commission proposes to set forth a process for mediation between a municipality and a video service provider relating to negotiations of a franchise agreement or contract, the obligations of the Participants under the agreement or contract, or the obligations of the Video Service Provider.

**PUBLIC HEARING** *(if any)*: N/A

**COMMENT DEADLINE: January 31, 2025**. Comments on the proposed rule may be filed electronically using the Commission’s Case Management System (CMS). Written comments should refer to the docket number of this proceeding, Docket No. 2024-00316.

**CONTACT PERSON FOR THIS FILING:** Jody McColman, 18 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333; (207) 287- 1321; jordan.mccolman@maine.gov

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

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

**STATUTORY AUTHORITY FOR THIS RULE:** 30-A M.R.S. Sec. 3009-B(1); 35‑A M.R.S. Sec. 111

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

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

**EMAIL FOR OVERALL AGENCY RULEMAKING LIAISON:** pamela.kowalchuk@maine.gov

**AGENCY: 29-250 Department of Secretary of State**

**CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE: Ch. 505, Voter List Maintenance Procedures**

**TYPE OF RULE: Routine Technical**

**PROPOSED RULE NUMBER: 2024-P292**

**BRIEF SUMMARY:** This rule was proposed by private citizens in a petition signed by 150 or more registered voters. Under 5 M.R.S. Sec. 8055, the Department of Secretary of State is required to initiate rulemaking proceedings and invite public comment on the proposed rule. The proposed rule would repeal and replace the current rule governing maintenance of voter registration records under the National Voter Registration Act of 1993. The proposed rule would impose on municipal registrars new and modified requirements relating to voter list maintenance and the cancellation of ineligible voters. The rule would also create new standards for registrars to determine whether persons seeking to register to vote are qualified voters.

**PUBLIC HEARING** *(if any)*: The agency expects to hold a public hearing in January 2025, and will publish a notice of the hearing date 17-24 days prior to that date.

**COMMENT DEADLINE:** January 31, 2025 (extended from December 15, 2024)

**CONTACT PERSON FOR THIS FILING:** Melissa Packard, Director of Elections, Bureau of CEC, 184 State House Station Augusta, Maine 04333-0184. Telephone: (207) 624-7736. E-mail: Melissa.Packard@Maine.gov.

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

**FINANCIAL IMPACT ON MUNICIPALITIES OR COUNTIES** *(if any)*: This proposed rule would result in municipalities paying the costs of mass confirmation mailings to voters, which must occur at least once every five years. Currently, the Department of Secretary of State conducts these mailings and pays the costs of them. Cost would vary depending on the size of the municipality and the selection criteria used for the mailings. Municipalities would also be responsible for litigation costs arising from any legal challenge under the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 to their administration of the required list-maintenance program, which is currently administered by the Secretary of State.

**STATUTORY AUTHORITY FOR THIS RULE:** The petitioners assert that the rule is authorized by 21-A MRSA Sec. 161(2-A). The agency does not necessarily agree as to all portions of the rule.

**SUBSTANTIVE STATE OR FEDERAL LAW BEING IMPLEMENTED** *(if different)*: 21-A M.R.S. ch. 3; National Voter Registration Act of 1993, 52 U.S.C. Secs. 20501–20511.

**AGENCY WEBSITE:** <https://www.maine.gov/sos/cec/elec/index.html>

**EMAIL FOR OVERALL AGENCY RULEMAKING LIAISON:** Dorothy.Canelli@Maine.gov

**AGENCY: 10-148 Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Child and Family Services**

**CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE: 10-148 C.M.R. Chapter 22: Safe Haven Baby Boxes**

**TYPE OF RULE: Routine Technical**

**PROPOSED RULE NUMBER:**

**BRIEF SUMMARY:**

This rulemaking proposes to establish guidelines for the safe installation and use of safe haven baby boxes at qualifying safe haven provider locations before they are put into service. Public Law 2021, c. 466 amended Maine’s Safe Haven law to direct the Department of Health and Human Services to adopt rules to ensure the safe design, installation, and use of each safe haven baby box before it may be put into service by a hospital, law enforcement agency, or fire department.

 Safe haven provider locations that may voluntarily install and use safe haven baby boxes include hospitals, law enforcement facilities, and fire department facilities. Safe haven providers with installed baby boxes must have their facilities staffed by a medical services provider 24 hours a day and 365 days a year. Safe haven providers that choose to install baby boxes must have safe haven baby boxes certified for safe use by a professional engineer, architect, or interior designer prior to being put into service, and they must have baby boxes recertified annually. Safe haven providers must register baby boxes with the Office of Child and Family Services and must renew safe haven baby box registrations annually. This rulemaking also establishes guidelines for the required testing of safe haven baby boxes and procedures required of safe haven baby box providers when children are delivered to baby boxes.

**PUBLIC HEARING:** A public hearing will be held on Thursday, January 2nd, 2025 at 1pm Eastern Standard Time (U.S. and Canada) at the Department of Health and Human Services, 109 Capitol St., Augusta, ME 04330. An online option is available via Zoom at:

<https://mainestate.zoom.us/j/89477171097?pwd=amDxhaWBIFonGmp9aDvOuQgF7tZccf.1>

**COMMENT DEADLINE:** The Department will accept written comments via U.S. mail, e-mail, or fax until Sunday, January 12th 2025 at 11:59pm Eastern Standard Time (U.S. and Canada).

**CONTACT PERSON FOR THIS FILING:**

Connor Kelley, Quality Assurance Specialist

Maine Department of Health and Human Services

Office of Child and Family Services

2 Anthony Avenue

Augusta, Maine 04333-0011

PHONE: 207-441-0933

EMAIL: connor.kelley@maine.gov

FAX: (207) 287-3707

TTY: 711 (Deaf or Hard of Hearing)

**CONTACT PERSON FOR SMALL BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT:** N/A

**FINANCIAL IMPACT ON MUNICIPALITIES OR COUNTIES:**Safe haven providers that choose to install baby boxes will incur the cost of doing so.

**STATUTORY AUTHORITY FOR THIS RULE:** 22 M.R.S.A. Sec. 42(1); 22 M.R.S.A Sec. 4018; PL 2021, c. 466.

**SUBSTANTIVE STATE OR FEDERAL LAW BEING IMPLEMENTED:** Public Law 2021, Chapter 466

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

**EMAIL FOR OVERALL AGENCY RULEMAKING LIAISON:** emily.a.cathcart@maine.gov

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

**CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE: 10-144 C.M.R. Chapter 332; MaineCare Eligibility Manual – Part 2 MaineCare Rule #310P – Part 2, Section 9 Update**

**TYPE OF RULE: Routine Technical**

**PROPOSED RULE NUMBER: 2024-P324**

**BRIEF SUMMARY**: The Department proposes an update to Part 2, Section 9: INDIVIDUALS RESIDING IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS. The proposed rule would update Section 9 (I) to “Inmates of state prisons, Long Creek Youth Development Center, and local or county jails are eligible for Medicaid coverage, as set forth in 10-144 C.M.R. Ch. 101, Ch. 1(1.04-B) if they meet the financial and non-financial criteria applicable to non-inmates.” The proposed rule change is consistent with legislative changes to 22 M.R.S. §3174-CC made by P.L. 2023, Ch. 458, *An Act to Improve the Health of Maine Residents by Closing Coverage Gaps in the MaineCare Program for Incarcerated Persons*.

**PUBLIC HEARING *(if any)***: No public hearing is scheduled.

**COMMENT DEADLINE:** Friday, January 10, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time.

**CONTACT PERSON FOR THIS FILING:**

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

TT Users Call Maine Relay – 711

Adam.Hooper@maine.gov

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

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

**STATUTORY AUTHORITY FOR THIS RULE:** 22 M.R.S. §§ 42(1) and 3174-CC

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

**AGENCY WEBSITE:** [https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/ofi](https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/ofi/arules)

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

**ADOPTIONS**

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

**CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE: Chapter 895 Underground Facility Damage Prevention Requirements**

**ADOPTED RULE NUMBER: 2024-254**

**CONCISE SUMMARY:**

The Public Utilities Commission initiated a rulemaking proceeding to amend chapter 895. The amendments are narrowly tailored for the purpose of reducing the number of Dig Safe tickets issued to operators and owners of underground facilities where the facilities are not located in the area of the planned excavation thereby reducing the administrative burdens associated with participation in the Dig Safe system without compromising safety.

The adopted amendments include provisions that implement changes required by recently enacted legislation as well as non-substantive editorial changes.

**EFFECTIVE DATE: Wednesday, December 11, 2024**

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

**CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE: Chapter 328 Rule Governing the Interconnection Ombudsman Fee and Fund**

**ADOPTED RULE NUMBER: 2024-264**

**CONCISE SUMMARY:**

In 2023, the Legislature enacted “An Act to Provide Maine Ratepayers with Equitable Access to Interconnection of Distributed Generation Resources.” P.L. 2023, c. 307 (2023 Act). The 2023 Act directed the Commission to appoint an interconnection ombudsman to assist customers of investor-owned transmission and distribution utilities who seek to interconnect renewable generation resources, specifically solar resources, as well as energy storage systems with the distribution system owned by the utilities. The 2023 Act directed the Commission to establish, by rule, a fee to be paid by customers seeking to interconnect to support the interconnection ombudsman position.

**EFFECTIVE DATE: Wednesday, December 11, 2024**

**AGENCY CONTACT PERSON:**

AGENCY NAME: Pam Kowalchuk, pamela.kowalchuk@maine.gov

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

TELEPHONE: 207-287-1564

**AGENCY: 02-031 Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Bureau of Insurance**

**CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE: 850 Health Plan Accountability**

**ADOPTED RULE NUMBER: 2024-270**

**CONCISE SUMMARY:**

The proposed rule amendment updates the rule to account for the changes in law made by Public Law 2021, Chapter 603 and by Public Law 2023, Chapter 680, and to comply with new federal requirements established by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Notice of Benefit and Payment Parameters for 2025.

**EFFECTIVE DATE**: **Not Applicable. This is a major substantive rule that has been provisionally adopted, not finally adopted.**

**AGENCY CONTACT PERSON:** Stacy Bergendahl

AGENCY NAME: Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Bureau of Insurance

ADDRESS: #34 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0034

Stacy.L.Bergendahl@maine.gov

TELEPHONE: (207) 624-8537

**AGENCY: 29-250 Department of the Secretary of State, Bureau of Motor Vehicles**

**CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE: Chapter 6: Rules for the Suspension of Commercial Drivers’ Licenses**

**ADOPTED RULE NUMBER: 2024-271**

**CONCISE SUMMARY:**

These rules, first published in 1990 and last repealed and replaced in 2005, implement those provisions of the federal Commercial Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1986 (Public Law 99-570, Title XII), Motor Carrier Safety Improvement Act of 1999 (Public Law 106-59), 113 Stat. 1748 and rules adopted thereto and the Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism (USA Patriot Act) Act of 2001 (Public Law 107-56) and rules adopted thereto relating to the disqualification of persons from operating commercial motor vehicles upon conviction, adjudication, or administrative determination for specific traffic and other designated offenses. These adopted rule changes provide requirements for how a commercial driver, who has been indefinitely suspended in accordance with federal regulations, may appeal for license restoration after serving 10 years of the lifetime suspension.

**EFFECTIVE DATE: Sunday, December 15, 2024**

**AGENCY CONTACT PERSON:** Christopher Ireland

AGENCY NAME: Bureau of Motor Vehicles

ADDRESS: 101 Hospital Street, Augusta, ME 04333

TELEPHONE: 207-624-9124

**Notice: Beginning in January 2025, online rulemaking proposal and adoption notices will be posted each week in a .pdf document. Each .pdf document that is posted will be accessible through a link that will be listed on the main “Weekly Rulemaking Notices” website.**