**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**

**OFFICE OF STATE FIRE MARSHAL**

**2025 - 2026 RULEMAKING AGENDA**

**AGENCY UMBRELLA-UNIT NUMBER: 16-219**

**AGENCY NAME:**

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

OFFICE OF STATE FIRE MARSHAL

SHAWN ESLER, STATE FIRE MARSHAL

52 STATE HOUSE STATION

AUGUSTA, ME 04333-0052

Tel: (207) 626-3870

**RULE-MAKING LIAISON AND SMALL BUSINESS IMPACT CONTACT:**

Richard E. Taylor, Senior Research & Planning Analyst

Office of State Fire Marshal

52 State House Station

Augusta, ME 04333-0052

Tel: (207) 592-6105

**EMERGENCY RULES ADOPTED SINCE THE LAST REGULATORY AGENDA:**

None

**CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT:**

 None

**EXPECTED 2025 - 2026 RULE-MAKING ACTIVITY:**

**CHAPTER 1: FEE SCHEDULE FOR PLANS EXAMINATION**

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 25 M.R.S. §2450, 2452; 32 M.R.S. §1374

PURPOSE: This rule establishes fees to support construction plan reviews for permits of building construction and licensing in the following areas:

Fee Schedule for Plans Examination

Plans Review and Permits for Fire Sprinkler Systems

Schedule of Fees for Plans Review and Permit of Barrier Free Construction

ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE: Prior to October 31, 2026

AFFECTED PARTIES: All customers who are required to submit building construction plans to the Office of State Fire Marshal for review.

CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT: N/A

**CHAPTER 2: RULES ESTABLISHING CRITERIA FOR APPROVAL OF SMOKE DETECTORS**

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 25 M.R.S. §2464

PURPOSE: Establishes rules for approving smoke detectors to meet statutory requirements in various occupancies. The approval process will recognize smoke detectors approved by a nationally recognized testing agency for the purpose of this rule.

ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE: Prior to October 31, 2026

AFFECTED PARTIES: All customers who are required to meet the installation of smoke detectors for occupancy type and classification.

**CHAPTER 3: FIRE PREVENTION CODE**

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 25 M.R.S. §2452

PURPOSE: This National Fire Prevention Code provides a nationally recognized fire prevention code for state and municipal enforcement.

ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE: Prior to October 31, 2026

AFFECTED PARTIES: All fire service agencies, within the State of Maine, have enforcement requirements for life safety in structures from fire.

CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT: N/A

**CHAPTER 4: WATER-BASED FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEMS**

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 25 M.R.S. §2452; 32 M.R.S. §1373, 1374, 1382

PURPOSE: Establishes the design, installation, operation, maintenance and all other aspects of sprinkler protection for occupancies with sprinkler system fire protection measures and references National Fire Protection Association and State of Maine standards.

ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE: Prior to October 31, 2026

AFFECTED PARTIES: All occupancies requiring the protection measures of water-based sprinkler system fire protection measures.

CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT: N/A

**CHAPTER 5: PORTABLE FIRE EXTINGUISHERS**

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 25 M.R.S. §2452

PURPOSE: Establishes the rules for the installation and maintenance of portable fire extinguishers.

ANTICIIPATED SCHEDULE: Prior to October 31, 2026

AFFECTED PARTIES: All occupancies requiring protective measures utilizing portable fire extinguishers.

CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT: N/A

**CHAPTER 6: FIRE EXTINGUISHING SYSTEMS**

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 25 M.R.S. §2452; 32 M.R.S. §1382

PURPOSE: Establishes rules for the installation, operation, maintenance and all other aspects of fire protection systems for occupancies that require such fire protection measures.

ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE: Prior to October 31, 2026

AFFECTED PARTIES: Any occupancies that require or utilize fire extinguishing systems for fire protection measures.

CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT: N/A

**CHAPTER 10: STATIONARY COMBUSTION ENGINES AND GAS TURBINES**

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 25 M.R.S. §2452

PURPOSE: Establishes rules for the installation and operation of stationary combustion engines and gas turbines.

ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE: Prior to October 31, 2026

AFFECTED PARTIES: Occupancies that utilize or require the use of this type of equipment.

CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT: N/A

**CHAPTER 14: NATIONAL FUEL GAS CODE**

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 25 M.R.S. §2452

PURPOSE: Establishes rules for the design, construction, operation and maintenance of these systems.

ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE: Prior to October 31, 2026

AFFECTED PARTIES: Facilities and occupancies that utilize these types of systems.

CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT: N/A

**CHAPTER 15: FIRE PROTECTION RULES FOR MEDICAL FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT**

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 25 M.R.S. §2452

PURPOSE: This chapter contains specific information, regulations and minimum requirements relating to inhalation anesthetics, respiratory therapy, laboratories in health-related institutions, hyperbolic facilities, nonflammable medical gas systems; and inhalation anesthetics in ambulatory care facilities.

ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE: Prior to October 31, 2026

AFFECTED PARTIES: Facilities or occupancies that utilize the types of activities covered in this chapter.

CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT: N/A

**CHAPTER 16: STORAGE AND HANDLING OF LIQUID PETROLEUM GASES**

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 25 M.R.S. §2452, 2482

PURPOSE: Establishes rules for the storage, handling, transportation, and use of LP-Gas and the design, construction, location, installation, operation, and maintenance of refrigerated and nonrefrigerated utility gas plants.

ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE: Prior to October 31, 2026

AFFECTED PARTIES: Facilities and occupancies that utilize these types of systems.

CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT: N/A

**CHAPTER 17: NATIONAL FIRE ALARM AND SIGNALING CODE, N.F.P.A. #72**

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 25 M.R.S. §2396, 2452

PURPOSE: Establishes rules for the design, operation and maintenance of fire alarm systems.

ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE: Prior to October 31, 2026

AFFECTED PARTIES: Facilities or occupancies that require the installation and use of a fire alarm system for occupant and fire department notification in the event of fire.

CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT: N/A

**CHAPTER 19: VAPOR REMOVAL FROM COOKING EQUIPMENT**

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 25 M.R.S. §2452

PURPOSE: Establishes rules for minimum fire safety requirements (preventative and operative) related to the design, installation, operation, inspection, and maintenance of public and private cooking operations.

ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE: Prior to October 31, 2026

AFFECTED PARTIES: Facilities or occupancies that utilize this type of equipment and require the appropriate fire protection measures.

CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT: N/A

**CHAPTER 20: FIRE SAFETY IN BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES**

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 25 M.R.S. §2452; 8 M.R.S. §236

PURPOSE: Establishes rules and regulations for the protection of life and property from fire.

ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE: Prior to October 31, 2026

AFFECTED PARTIES: Facilities or occupancies that require protective measures to be taken to protect life and property from fire.

CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT: N/A

**CHAPTER 21: TENTS, GRANDSTANDS, AIR SUPPORTED STRUCTURES FOR PLACES OF ASSEMBLY**

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 25 M.R.S. §2452

PURPOSE: Establishes rules for the minimum requirements for life safety in relation to fire, storm, collapse, and crowd behavior in tents, membrane structures, and assembly seating.

ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE: Prior to October 31, 2026

AFFECTED PARTIES: Facilities meeting this occupancy use and the appropriate life safety and fire protection measures.

CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT: N/A

**CHAPTER 22: CHIMNEYS, FIREPLACES, VENTS AND SOLID FUEL BURNING APPLICANCES**

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 25 M.R.S. §2452, 2465

PURPOSE: This rule focuses on the removal of waste gases, the reduction of fire hazards associated with construction and installation of chimneys, fireplaces and venting systems for residential, commercial and industrial appliances; and the installation of solid fuel burning appliances.

ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE: Prior to October 31, 2026

AFFECTED PARTIES: Facilities or occupancies that utilize the features of chimneys, fireplaces or vents and the subsequent fire protection measures associated with these features.

CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT: N/A

**CHAPTER 23: PURGED AND PRESSURIZED ENCLOSURES FOR ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT**

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 25 M.R.S. §2452

PURPOSE: Establishes rules for purged enclosures for electrical equipment in Class I hazardous locations, and pressurized enclosures for electrical equipment in Class II hazardous locations.

ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE: Prior to October 31, 2026

AFFECTED PARTIES: Facilities or occupancies that utilize or meet the requirements of the subject matter contained in this chapter for fire protection measures.

CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT: N/A

**CHAPTER 24: FIRE SAFETY TECHNICIAN TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION PROGRAM**

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 22 M.R.S. §8304-A

PURPOSE: This rule establishes the criteria that must be met to achieve the certification of Fire Safety Technician. Components include Life Safety Code training, basic inspection techniques, documentation procedures and an overview of the Department of Human Services rules.

ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE: Prior to October 31, 2026

AFFECTED PARTIES: Individuals involved in obtaining Fire Safety Technician Certification.

CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT: N/A

**CHAPTER 25: RULES FOR THE DISPLAY OF FIREWORKS**

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 8 M.R.S. §236

PURPOSE: Establishes the rules for the manufacture, transportation, storage and display of fireworks, pyrotechnic articles and model rocketry.

ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE: Prior to October 31, 2026

AFFECTED PARTIES: Persons who are involved in all aspects of the display of fireworks, pyrotechnic articles and model rocketry.

CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT: N/A

**CHAPTER 26: STANDARD FOR THE USE OF PYROTECHNICS BEFORE A PROXIMATE AUDIENCE**

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 8 M.R.S. §236

PURPOSE: Establishes rules for the use of pyrotechnic and flame-based activities before a proximate audience.

ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE: Prior to October 31, 2026

AFFECTED PARTIES: Persons, organizations, companies or activities that utilize the activities associated with flame or pyrotechnics before a proximate audience.

CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT: N/A

**CHAPTER 28: RULES GOVERNING OPERATIONS OF AMUSEMENT**

**DEVICES AND MIDWAYS**

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 8 M.R.S. §476

PURPOSE: Establishes rules and regulations for the condition and operation of such facilities and activities for life safety purposes.

ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE: Prior to October 31, 2026

AFFECTED PARTIES: Operators of amusement devices and midways

CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT: N/A

**CHAPTER 29: RULES AND REGULATIONS RELATING TO STRUCTURES**

**USED BY THE PUBLIC AS SPECTATORS DURING MOTOR VEHICLE RACING**

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 8 M.R.S. §562

PURPOSE: Establishes rules and regulations relating to structures used to accommodate and protect spectators during motor vehicle racing. This chapter further assures the safe and proper construction and maintenance of grandstands, bleachers, stadiums, arenas, safety barriers and the surface upon which they are placed.

ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE: Prior to October 31, 2026

AFFECTED PARTIES: Facilities or activities that utilize structures for use by spectators at motor vehicle racing.

CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT: N/A

**CHAPTER 31: RULES FOR THE MANUFACTURE, TRANSPORTATION, STORAGE AND USE OF EXPLOSIVE MATERIALS**

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 25 M.R.S. §2472

PURPOSE: Establishes rules for the safeguarding of persons through the manufacture, transportation, storage, sale and use of explosive materials.

ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE: Prior to October 31, 2026

AFFECTED PARTIES: Persons, organizations, companies or entities who are involved in the manufacture, transportation, sale, storage or use of explosive material.

CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT: N/A

**CHAPTER 34: RULES AND REGULATIONS RELATING TO FLAMMABLE AND COMBUSTIBLE LIQUIDS**

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 25 M.R.S. §2482

PURPOSE: Establishes rules for the safe storage, possession, handling, dispensing and transportation of flammable or combustible liquids (including waste liquids).

ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE: Prior to October 31, 2026

AFFECTED PARTIES: Persons, firms, corporations, co partnerships, voluntary associations and governmental agencies, except federal; that transport, store, handle or use these materials.

CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT: N/A

**CHAPTER 36: CONSUMER FIREWORKS SALES LICENSE**

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 8 M.R.S. §236; 25 M.R.S. §2452

PURPOSE: This rule describes the licensing process and safety regulations for the sale of consumer fireworks in Maine.

ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE: Prior to October 31, 2026

AFFECTED PARTIES: People interested in obtaining a license to sell consumer fireworks in Maine.

CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT: N/A

**CHAPTER 50: DEATH BENEFITS FOR FIREFIGHTERS WHO DIE IN THE LINE OF DUTY**

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 25 M.R.S. §1612

PURPOSE: This rule describes the procedures governing the award of death benefits to the child, spouse or parent of a firefighter who dies in the line of duty.

ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE: Prior to October 31, 2026

AFFECTED PARTIES: Children, spouses and parents of firefighters who die in the line of duty.

CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT: N/A

**CHAPTER 52: CERTIFICATION STANDARDS FOR MUNICIPAL CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS AND THIRD-PARTY INSPECTORS**

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 30-A M.R.S. §4451

PURPOSE: This rule describes the standards and procedures used to certify and recertify local code enforcement officers, local plumbing inspectors, building officials, and third-party inspectors.

ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE: Prior to October 31, 2026

AFFECTED PARTIES: Individuals involved in obtaining certification or recertification.

CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT: N/A