**94-270**

**COMMISSION ON GOVERNMENTAL ETHICS AND ELECTION PRACTICES**

Maine Administrative Procedure Act

2025-2026 Regulatory Agenda - Amended

July 21, 2025

**AGENCY UMBRELLA AND UNIT NUMBER: 94-270**

**AGENCY NAME: Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices**

**AGENCY RULEMAKING LIAISON CONTACT PERSON**: Julie Aube, Commission Assistant, 135 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333. Telephone: (207) 287-4179.

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**EMERGENCY RULES ADOPTED SINCE THE LAST REGULATORY AGENDA**: None

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

**CHAPTER 1: Procedures**

**STATUTORY BASIS:** 1 M.R.S.A. § 1003(1); 1 M.R.S.A. § 1016-G(4); 5 M.R.S.A. § 19(5); 21-A M.R.S.A. § 1017(6); 21-A M.R.S.A. § 1019-B.

**PURPOSE:** The Commission will consider amendments to chapter 1 of its rules to reflect current statutory requirements, including provisions relating to contribution limits for candidates who are not enrolled in a political party, restrictions on contributions by lobbyists and affiliated entities, and a new statutory definition of “public communication.” The amendments would also conform the Commission’s rules to current agency practices concerning giving notice to Commissioners of special meetings, notifying a Legislator of the scheduling of an ethics matter, providing informal ethics advice to Legislators, notifying the department chair about the receipt of a legislative ethics complaint, and receiving complaints about campaign finance non-compliance. The amendments would recognize that a third-party’s expenditure to republish campaign materials of a candidate conclusively results in a contribution to the candidate and would standardize references to statute by using a consistent format.

**ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE:** Fall 2025

**AFFECTED PARTIES:** Candidates, legislators and other elected officials, ballot question committees, party committees, political action committees, and others filing independent expenditure reports.

**CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT:** N/A

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