

Maine Administrative Procedure Act
2008-2009 Regulatory Agenda
Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices

1. Agency Umbrella-Unit Number: 94-270
2. Agency Name: Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices
3. Contact Person: Jonathan Wayne, Executive Director
4. Emergency Rules Adopted Since the Last Regulatory Agenda: None
5. Expected 2008-2009 Rule-making Activity:

CHAPTER 1: Procedures

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 1 M.R.S.A. § 1003(1); 21-A M.R.S.A. § 1017(6); 21-A M.R.S.A. §1019-B.

PURPOSE: Chapter 1 describes the nature and operation of the Commission and establishes procedures by which its actions will be governed. These rules include provisions on legislative ethics complaints, campaign finance reporting, lobbyist disclosure procedures, investigations by the Commission, accelerated reporting schedules, independent expenditures, ballot question campaign activity by persons other than PACs, and lobbyist contributions to Legislators. These rules will be amended to be consistent with statutory changes enacted in the First Regular Session of the 124th Legislature. These rules may also be amended to reflect Commission proposals for more effective administration or to clarify existing procedures.

SCHEDULE FOR ADOPTION: By October 2009.

AFFECTED PARTIES: Political candidates, political action committees, political party committees, persons and organizations receiving contributions or making expenditures for candidate or ballot question elections, contributors to campaigns, lobbyists, and Legislators.

CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT: Unknown at this time.

CHAPTER 2: Hearing Procedures

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 1 M.R.S.A. § 1003; 21-A M.R.S.A. § 1126.

PURPOSE: These rules establish the procedures applicable to hearings before the Maine Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices that may be held to consider any matter within the Commission's statutory authority, including legislative ethics, administration of the campaign reports and finances statutes, lobbyist disclosure procedures, the Maine Clean Election Act, etc. These rules may be amended to accommodate statutory revisions to

Commission authority, to reflect Commission proposals for a more effective and efficient hearing procedures, and to ensure compliance with the Maine Administrative Procedure Act.

SCHEDULE FOR ADOPTION: By October 2009.

AFFECTED PARTIES: Political candidates, political action committees, political party committees, persons and organizations receiving contributions or making expenditures for candidate or ballot question elections, contributors to campaigns, lobbyists, and Legislators.

CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT: Unknown at this time.

CHAPTER 3: Maine Clean Election Act and Related Provisions

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 1 M.R.S.A. § 1003; 21-A M.R.S.A. § 1126

PURPOSE: These rules establish procedures to implement the Maine Clean Election Act and related provisions, including definitions, procedures governing candidate participation in the Act, certification of participating candidates, fund administration, distribution of funds to certified candidates, limitations on campaign expenses, record-keeping and reporting requirements, and procedures for Maine Clean Election Act candidates involved in recounts, vacancies, and special elections. These rules will be amended to be consistent with statutory changes enacted in the First Regular Session of the 124th Legislature.

SCHEDULE FOR ADOPTION: By October 2009.

AFFECTED PARTIES: Prospective candidates and persons interested in becoming candidates for the office of Governor, State Senator, or State Representative, and the general public.

CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT: Unknown at this time.