

Janet T. Mills
Governor

Sara Gagné-Holmes
Commissioner



Maine Department of Health and Human Services
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February 4, 2026

Senator Henry Ingwersen, Chair
Representative Michele Meyer, Chair
Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services
#100 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333-0100

Dear Senator Ingwersen, Representative Meyer, and Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services:

I am pleased to submit the report on rulemaking for the second quarter of FY 2026, pursuant to Public Law 2003, ch. 689, Part A, §A-2, requiring the Department of Health and Human Services to submit quarterly reports to the Committee, summarizing the rulemaking activity of the Department.

We have based our report on the format and information supplied by the Secretary of State, Bureau of Corporations, Elections and Commissions, to tally rules that have been adopted and proposed for the Department.

Please let me know if you have any questions or comments concerning this report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sara Gagné-Holmes".

Sara Gagné-Holmes
Commissioner

SGH/klv

cc: Governor's Office

DHHS Quarterly Report on Rulemaking

**Submitted to the
Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services**

(Pursuant to P.L. 2003 Chapter 689. Part A § A-2)

P.L. 2003, ch. 689, Part A § A-2, requires the Department of Health and Human Services to submit quarterly reports on rulemaking, pursuant to:

"Sec. A-2. Quarterly report; rulemaking. Beginning October 1, 2004, the Commissioner of Health and Human Services shall provide the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters with a quarterly report that summarizes rule-making activity of the Department of Health and Human Services."

The intent of the Maine Administrative Procedure Act (A.P.A.), [5 M.R.S. ch 375](#), is to improve public access to agency decision-making and to increase awareness of agency rules. In Maine, the Administrative Procedure Act was adopted at the First Session of the 108th Legislature, with some amendments since. It applies uniform requirements to state agencies which have rulemaking power, and sets minimum standards for agencies to follow in adopting and implementing rules. Very generally, the A.P.A. establishes a uniform, comprehensive set of procedures covering:

- The administrative actions of state agencies, including rulemaking, advisory rulings, adjudicatory proceedings, and licensing; and
- Judicial review of those actions.

We have based our report on the format used by the Secretary of State's Office, Bureau of Corporations, Elections, and Commissions, to tally rules that are adopted, and separately those that are proposed, for the Department of Health and Human Services.

In addition to the "subject matter" noted in the right-most column, additional summary statements for each of these rules are filed as paper-copy "basis statements" in the office of the Secretary of State's APA Coordinator and are available for review.

Rules adopted by DHHS in the second quarter FY 2026:

Effective Date (may have been published later)	Citation/ Adopted Rule Number	Adopted by DHHS in the second quarter – FY 2026	TYPE OF RULE	CHAPTER NUMBER & TITLE
11-2-25	10-144 2025-215	Office for Family Independence	Amend.	Ch. 331, Public Assistance Manual Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Maximum Benefit and Standard of Need Chart; TANF Rule #125A – COLA Updates www.maine.gov/dhhs/ofi/rules/index.shtml

Effective Date (may have been published later)	Citation/ Adopted Rule Number	Adopted by DHHS in the second quarter – FY 2026	TYPE OF RULE	CHAPTER NUMBER & TITLE
11-23-25	10-144 2025-223	Office of MaineCare Services	Amend.	Ch. 101, MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter III, Section 45, Principles of Reimbursement for Hospital Services www.maine.gov/dhhs/oms/about-us/policies-rules
11-30-25	10-144 2025-231	Office for Family Independence	Amend.	Ch 331, Public Assistance Manual Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Manual – TANF Rule #126A – Income Exclusions www.maine.gov/dhhs/ofi/rules/index.shtml
12-1-25	10-144 2025-232	Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention	Amend.	Ch. 231, Drinking Water Rule www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/rules/maine-cdc-rules.shtml
12-3-25	10-144 2025-230	Division of Licensing and Certification	Amend.	Ch 108, Home and Community Support Service Agencies Licensing Rule https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/dlc
12-22-25	10-148/ 2025-246	Office of Child and Family Services	Amend.	Ch. 31, Quality Rating and Improvement System: Rising Stars for ME www.maine.gov/dhhs/about/rulemaking

Rules proposed by DHHS in the second quarter FY 2026:

DATE	PROPOSED RULE NUMBER	Rules <i>proposed</i> by DHHS in the second quarter FY 2026	CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE
10-1-25	2025-P152	Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention	Ch. 252, Syringe Services Programs Rule www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/rules/maine-cdc-rules.shtml

DATE	PROPOSED RULE NUMBER	Rules proposed by DHHS in the second quarter FY 2026	CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE
10-8-25	2025-P162	Office for Family Independence	Ch. 331, Maine Public Assistance Manual Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) – Chapter III; TANF Rule #126P – Income Exclusions www.maine.gov/dhhs/ofi/rules/index.shtml
10-8-25	2025-P163	Office for Family Independence	Ch. 301, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Rules (Sections 555-4 and 555-5) SNAP Rule #242P – Income and Deductions Update www.maine.gov/dhhs/ofi/rules/index.shtml
10-8-25	2025-P164	Office for Family Independence	Ch. 301, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Rules (Sections 111-5 and 111-7) SNAP Rule #240P – ABAWD Update www.maine.gov/dhhs/ofi/rules/index.shtml
10-8-25	2025-P165	Office for Family Independence	Ch. 607, ASPIRE-TANF Program Rule (All Sections) www.maine.gov/dhhs/ofi/rules/index.shtml
10-15-25	2025-P166	Office of Child and Family Services	Ch. 31, Quality Rating and Improvement System: Rising Stars for ME www.maine.gov/dhhs/about/rulemaking
10-29-25	2025-P174	Office for Family Independence	Ch. 302, Summer Electronic Benefit Transfer Program Rules (SUN Bucks) (Summer EBT Rule #1 – SUN Bucks) www.maine.gov/dhhs/ofi/rules/index.shtml
11-5-25	2025-P178	Office for Family Independence	Ch. 322, Maine General Assistance (GA) Manual – Sections III, XII, and XIII. GA Rule #27 – PL 2025, Chapters 2 Part SS, 149 and 449) www.maine.gov/dhhs/ofi/rules/index.shtml
11-26-25	2025-P190	Office of MaineCare Services	Ch. 101, MaineCare Benefits Manual, Ch. II, Section 92, Behavioral Health Homes Services www.maine.gov/dhhs/oms/about-us/policies-rules

DATE	PROPOSED RULE NUMBER	Rules proposed by DHHS in the second quarter FY 2026	CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE
11-26-25	2025-P191	Office of MaineCare Services	Ch. 101, MaineCare Benefits Manual, Ch. III, Section 92, Principles of Reimbursement for Behavioral Health Home Services www.maine.gov/dhhs/oms/about-us/policies-rules
11-26-25	2025-P193	Office of MaineCare Services	Ch. 101, MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter I, Section 7 Children's Behavioral Health Services Global Rule www.maine.gov/dhhs/oms/about-us/policies-rules
12-3-25	2025-P201	Office of MaineCare Services	Ch. 101, MaineCare Benefits Manual – Chapter II, Section 65, Behavioral Health Services www.maine.gov/dhhs/oms/about-us/policies-rules
12-3-25	2025-P202	Office of MaineCare Services	Ch. 101, MaineCare Benefits Manual – Chapter III, Section 65, Behavioral Health Services www.maine.gov/dhhs/oms/about-us/policies-rules
12-3-25	2025-P203	Office of MaineCare Services	Ch. 101, MaineCare Benefits Manual – Chapter II, Section 66, Crisis Services www.maine.gov/dhhs/oms/about-us/policies-rules
12-17-25	2025-P214	Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention	Ch. 261, Immunization Requirements for School Children www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/rules/maine-cdc-rules.shtml