



# 131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2023

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Legislative Document

No. 850

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H.P. 539

House of Representatives, February 21, 2023

**An Act to Require State Agencies to Complete the Rulemaking  
Process Within One Year of a Legislative Directive to Adopt Rules**

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Reference to the Committee on State and Local Government suggested and ordered printed.

  
ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative CARLOW of Buxton.  
Cosponsored by Senator BENNETT of Oxford and  
Representatives: ARATA of New Gloucester, BOYER of Poland, LANDRY of Farmington,  
LIBBY of Auburn, MORRIS of Turner, WHITE of Waterville.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §8052, sub-§9** is enacted to read:

3 **9. Timing of adoption.** When an agency is directed by law to adopt rules, the agency  
4 shall adopt, or in the case of major substantive rules adopted under subchapter 2-A, shall  
5 provisionally adopt, all of those rules within 12 months of the effective date of the law,  
6 unless otherwise required or directed by law.

7 **Sec. 2. Effective date.** This Act takes effect January 1, 2024.

8 **SUMMARY**

9 This bill provides that when an agency is directed by law to adopt rules, the agency,  
10 unless otherwise required or directed by law, must adopt, or in the case of major substantive  
11 rules adopted under subchapter 2-A, must provisionally adopt, all of those rules within 12  
12 months of the effective date of the law.