

Notice of Agency Rule-making Proposal

AGENCY: 99-346 Maine State Housing Authority

CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE: Chapter 24, Home Energy Assistance Program

PROPOSED RULE NUMBER (*leave blank; assigned by Secretary of State*):

CONTACT PERSON FOR THIS FILING: Ashley Janotta, Chief Counsel, Maine State Housing Authority, State House Station #89, 26 Edison Drive, Augusta, Maine 04330-6046, (207) 626-4600 (telephone), (800) 452-4668 (voice in state only) or Maine Relay 711, ajanotta@mainehousing.org (e-mail)

Upon sufficient notice, this notice and the proposed rule will be made available in alternative formats for persons with disabilities and in alternative languages for persons with limited English proficiency.

CONTACT PERSON FOR SMALL BUSINESS INFORMATION (if different): Same as Contact Person

PUBLIC HEARING (if any): A public hearing will be held on Tuesday, May 17, 2022 at 9:30 a.m. at Maine State Housing Authority, 26 Edison Drive, Augusta, Maine. To listen or testify virtually, please contact Gerrylynn Ricker no later than 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 12, 2022 at MaineHousing, 26 Edison Drive, Augusta, Maine 04330-6046; (207) 626-4600 (voice); 1-800-452-4668 (voice in state only); or 711 (Maine Relay) or via e-mail: gricker@mainehousing.org.

Upon sufficient notice, appropriate communications auxiliary aids and services will be provided to persons with disabilities and persons with limited English proficiency.

COMMENT DEADLINE: Friday, May 27, 2022 at 5:00 PM

BRIEF *SUMMARY: This replacement rule repeals and replaces in its entirety the current Home Energy Assistance Program Rule. The rule establishes standards for administering fuel assistance, emergency fuel assistance, TANF Supplemental Benefits, weatherization, heat pumps, and heating system repair and replacement funds to low-income households in the State of Maine. This replacement rule: allows for categorical income eligibility for Households receiving TANF or SNAP assistance; expands the time period in which eligible medical expenses can be deducted for income determination; allows for HEAP categorical eligibility for Weatherization, CHIP and Heat Pump programming; and permits TANF Supplemental Benefits to be sent to HEAP Vendors pre-delivery in the same manner as regular HEAP Benefits. Other changes correct errors or provide clarification to the previous version of the rule.

A copy of the proposed replacement rule may be found at www.mainehousing.org.

IMPACT ON MUNICIPALITIES OR COUNTIES (if any) None

STATUTORY AUTHORITY FOR THIS RULE: 30-A M.R.S.A. §§4722(1)(W), 4741 (1) and (15), and 4991 *et seq.*; 42 U.S.C.A. §§8621, *et seq.*

SUBSTANTIVE STATE OR FEDERAL LAW BEING IMPLEMENTED (if different): Same as above

E-MAIL FOR OVERALL AGENCY RULE-MAKING LIAISON: ajanotta@mainehousing.org

* Check one of the following two boxes.

The above summary is for use in both the newspaper and website notices.

The above summary is for the newspaper notice only. A more detailed summary / basis statement is attached.

Please approve bottom portion of this form and assign appropriate AdvantageME number.

APPROVED FOR PAYMENT _____ DATE: _____
(authorized signature)

FUND	AGENCY AMOUNT	ORG	APP	JOB	OBJT
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