

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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MATTHEW DUNLAP
SECRETARY OF STATE

STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE
OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE

January 29, 2016

Honorable Rodney L. Whittemore, Senate Chair
Honorable Roland Danny Martin, House Chair
Members of the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government
2 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333-0002

Dear Senator Whittemore, Representative Martin and Members of the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government,

Pursuant to 5 MRS §8056-A, herein is the Secretary of State's report on the progress of the Maine Administrative Procedure Act (APA).

During the year 2015, there were 248 proposed rule filings and 260 adopted rule filings. This represents a decrease of 29 proposed rule filings and a decrease of 36 adopted rule filings from 2014. There are fewer proposals than adoptions because of emergency adoption filings, which do not require the filing of a proposal prior to adoption. There were 16 provisional major substantive rule adoptions submitted by agencies to the Secretary of State and the Legislature during 2015, which is two more than 2014. At the end of 2015 there were 2,046 current rule chapters in effect and on file with the Secretary of State under the APA, one more than 2014.

Additionally, during 2015, the cost of publishing the Wednesday rule-making proposal notices in five daily newspapers was \$208,052. This was a decrease of \$17,597 from 2014. This cost was spread among the rule-making agencies *pro rata*. Pursuant to Chapter 380 of the Public Laws of 2011, notice of the adoption of rules is no longer published in the newspapers. Weekly adoption notices are included on the Bureau's (CEC) website along with the rule-making proposal notices.

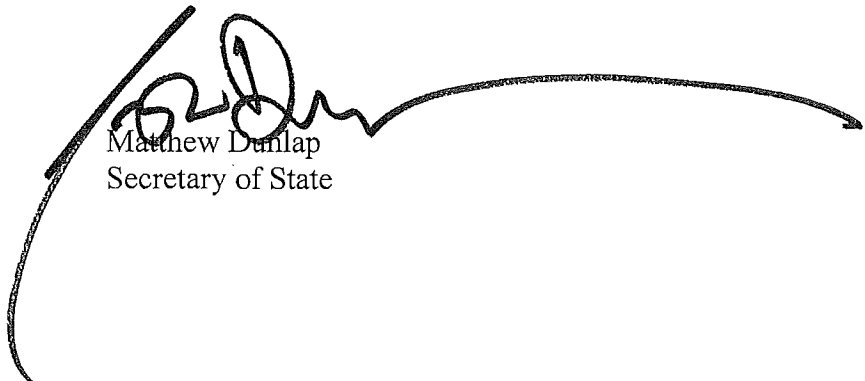
The Secretary of State solicited comments on the progress of the Maine APA by publishing a notice in five daily newspapers and on the Internet. No comments were received.

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Direct access to the full text of Maine's rule chapters and regulatory agendas may be found on the Department's website at: www.maine.gov/sos/cec/rules.

If you have any questions regarding the Administrative Procedure Act, please contact me or Julie Flynn, Deputy Secretary of State at 624-7650.

Sincerely,



Matthew Dunlap
Secretary of State