

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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BILL DIAMOND
SECRETARY OF STATE

State of Maine
Office of
Secretary of State

AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0148

Covers
1995

February 1, 1996

Honorable Angus S. King, Jr.
Office of the Governor
State House Station 1
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Governor King,

Pursuant to 5 M.R.S.A. Section 8056-A, the Secretary of State is hereby submitting its report on the progress of the Maine Administrative Procedure Act.

During the year of 1995, there were 278 proposed rule notices and 523 adopted rules.

At the end of 1995, there were 1,849 rules on file with the Secretary of State. This is a decrease of 50 from the rules on file at the end of 1994. This is mainly due to the repeal of many of the Shoreland Zoning Ordinances by the Department of Environmental Protection. On January 4, 1996, the Department of Environmental Protection repealed another 13 of their rules as a result of the rule review discussed in Executive Order 6 FY 94/95. The Health Care Finance Commission is also proposing to repeal their rules.

On September 18, 1995, the process of scanning all agency rules began. We received all the scanned rules by December 15. These were sent to the agencies to proof and notify us of the corrections. We have received approximately 60% of the proofed rules. Our office has begun making the corrections necessary and will send the corrected version of the rule to the agencies for final adoption and Attorney General approval. We expect that this will be completed within the 120 day statutory deadline of April, 1996.

During the calendar year of 1995, the cost of publishing the rulemaking notices was \$214,389.31. This amount was spread among the rule-making agencies pro rata.

On October 20, 1995, the Secretary of State adopted an emergency rule which regulated electronic filing of rules. On November 29, the final version was formally proposed. The permanent rule is expected to be adopted very soon.

Please feel free to direct any inquiries regarding the A.P.A. to Lucille Weeks, A.P.A. Officer, at 287-4184 or to Division Director, Don Wismer, at 287-6381.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bill Diamond".

Bill Diamond
Secretary of State