**94-270**

**COMMISSION ON GOVERNMENTAL ETHICS AND ELECTION PRACTICES**

Maine Administrative Procedure Act

2016-2017 Regulatory Agenda

December 20, 2016

AGENCY UMBRELLA-UNIT NUMBER: **94-270**

AGENCY NAME: **Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices**

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**EMERGENCY RULES ADOPTED SINCE THE LAST REGULATORY AGENDA**: None

**2016-2017 RULE-MAKING ACTIVITY**:

**CHAPTER 3**: Maine Clean Election Act and Related Provisions

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 1 M.R.S. §1003; 21-A M.R.S. §1126

PURPOSE: Chapter 3 establishes procedures to implement the *Maine Clean Election Act* and related provisions, including definitions, procedures governing candidate participation in the Act, certification of participating candidates, fund administration, distribution of funds to certified candidates, limitations on campaign expenses, record-keeping and reporting requirements, and procedures for Maine Clean Election Act candidates involved in recounts, vacancies, and special elections.

 The Commission may amend its rules to be consistent with a citizen initiative approved by voters on November 3, 2015, including increasing seed money that may be collected by *Maine Clean Election Act* (MCEA) candidates and authorizing MCEA candidates to collect additional qualifying contributions to qualify for increased public campaign funds. The rules may also be amended to prohibit candidates from making payments of MCEA funds greater than $50 in cash, to describe the procedures for an online qualifying contribution service, and to adopt procedures that would apply when campaign workers falsely claim to have collected qualifying contributions.

EXPECTED SCHEDULE FOR ADOPTION: By January 2017.

AFFECTED PARTIES: Prospective candidates for the office of Governor, State Senator, or State Representative, and the general public.

CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT: None expected.