

**Maine Library Commission meeting agenda
Monday, June 15, 2026 – 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm**

Maine State Library, 230 State Street (Cultural Building)

(If a member of the public wishes to attend the meeting in-person, please contact Lori Stockman, Maine State Librarian, in order to be let into the building prior to the meeting start time. Lori.stockman@maine.gov)

Public Zoom link: <https://mainestate.zoom.us/j/89314047100?pwd=Z4iLFZVmJMv1tdtPAY5ful4Jvqq5gT.1>

Meeting ID: 893 1404 7100

Passcode: 62674999

- I. Welcome, call to order, verify quorum
- II. Public comment (3 min per person; no repeats)
- III. Review/approval of revised MSL Patron Behavior Policy [vote]
- IV. Review/approval of MLC Remote Meeting Policy [vote]
- V. Review/approval of MLC Rulemaking Petition [vote]
- VI. Consensus Based Rulemaking [vote]
- VII. Overview of current rulemaking process – Sarah Forster, AAG
- VIII. Continued discussion – current draft rule re: MRLS
- IX. Other business
- X. Adjourn

Next meeting – TBD, in-person all-day work session in July or August

Upcoming meetings:

September 14, 2026, 1 – 3 pm

November 9, 2026, 1 – 3 pm



Maine State Library Patron Behavior Policy (revised _____)

The Maine State Library, funded by Maine taxpayers, is a clean, comfortable, and safe place for selecting materials, reading, researching, studying, writing, and attending programs, meetings and engaging in civil discourse.

The Library is responsible for protecting the rights and safety of Library patrons, volunteers and staff, and for preserving and protecting the Library's materials, equipment, facilities, and grounds. Additionally, the Library has a strong commitment to intellectual freedom and to freedom of access to information as described in the [ALA Library Bill of Rights](#), the [ALA Core Values of Librarianship](#), the [ALA Code of Ethics](#), and the [ALA Freedom to Read statement](#).

For the comfort and safety of patrons, volunteers, and staff, and the protecting of Library property, staff may address any action deemed by staff to be disruptive to safely using the library's resources.

All persons using the library are welcome, but no one may interfere with or impinge upon any other person's ability to use the Maine State Library, or staff's ability to provide services.

Behavior of persons, regardless of age, which is disruptive or detracts from library use will not be tolerated. Acting or attempting to act in violation of state, federal, or local law, ordinance, regulation, or Library policy is prohibited.

Guidelines for Library Use:

- Ask for help when needed or if you are not finding the resources you need
- Be considerate of others
- Respect the facility, equipment and materials
- Be responsible for your children
- Be responsible for personal belongings; do not leave them unattended
- Follow reasonable staff direction

No Person Shall:

Commit or attempt to commit any activity that constitutes a Violation of Federal, State, or Local Criminal Statute or Ordinance, including but not limited to:

- Physically harm another person or group of people
- Be in possession of a firearm, dangerous weapons, explosives, incendiary devices or implements which by their nature are capable of being used to destroy or injure a person or property in the Maine Cultural Building.
- Use tobacco or marijuana products (or electronic substitutes), alcohol and/or unauthorized drugs in any form anywhere on library property
- Destroy, deface or steal Library or another person's property
- Obtain and use another person's personal data in some way that involves fraud or deception

- Engage in sexual conduct

Engage in disruptive, disorderly or unsafe conduct, including but not limited to:

- Talk loudly, make noise or use devices at a volume that disturb others
- Run, throw things, push, shove, fight, climb, jump
- Consume food or drink that leaves residue, crumbs, odors, or garbage
- Impede or prohibit access to the facility or its contents (e.g. physical impediments such as bicycles, backpacks, large groups of people, etc.)
- Use of restrooms to bathe, shave, or change clothes where it unreasonably interferes with other patrons use or staff use of the restroom or involves willful and lewd exposure in violation of ordinances and state law.
- Deliberately infect others with communicable viruses or diseases or threaten to do so.

Threaten, Harass, Harm or Violate the Rights of Library Users and/or staff, including but not limited to:

- Offensive, abusive, or threatening language, gestures or physical acts, including profanity and hate speech
- Unwelcome contact between people
- Stalk, stare, or invade personal space

Interfere With Others' Use of the Library, including but not limited to:

- Be in the Cultural Building, specifically state library facilities, barefoot or shirtless
- Leave personal belongings unattended (e.g. bicycles, scooters, backpacks, bags, personal devices)
- Loiter or sleep without using library resources or services. Staff regularly conduct wellness checks and may need to report sleeping for health and safety purposes.
- Enter the library with animals, except service animals. Only animals specifically trained to perform a task for a person with a disability, or animals that are part of a library event, are allowed. Refer to state policy. Maine statutes define “service animal” and “assistance animal” in [5 MRS §4553](https://www.maine.gov/ag/about/service_animal_policy.html). https://www.maine.gov/ag/about/service_animal_policy.html
- Use of wheeled devices such as skateboards, roller skates, bicycles, scooters, and shopping carts; devices that are allowed include wheelchairs, walkers, strollers, accessibility equipment, and other devices when used for their intended purpose.
- Post or distribute materials. The Library’s bulletin boards are restricted to postings for not-for-profit causes, and priority will be given to events in surrounding Kennebec County communities. Any items for the bulletin boards must be given to MSL staff for posting. The Library staff will post, rearrange, and remove posters and flyers from its bulletin boards. Size limits may apply.

Unattended Children and Vulnerable Adults

An unattended child is a minor of any age whose behavior requires them to be accompanied by a parent or caregiver. A vulnerable adult is a person over the age of 18-years-old who is unable or unwilling to care for themselves.

The library does not have staff, staff training, or State Certification to act as a child care facility or in lieu of trained staff or family for vulnerable adults.

- Young children and vulnerable adults should be supervised by age-appropriate, responsible parties at all times. Parents and caregivers are responsible for monitoring the activities and regulating the behavior of persons in their care while in the library. Library staff cannot legally assume the role of parent or caregiver.
- If a child, or anyone otherwise needing close adult supervision, has been left unattended in the library, staff will attempt to locate the caregiver. If the caregiver cannot be located, or if the library is closing, law enforcement will be notified.

Conduct Surveys, Solicit Money or Signatures, Distribute Leaflets Inside the Cultural Building

Selling products or services or soliciting money or signatures, circulating petitions, distributing leaflets and other similar activities except as part of a library sponsored program or library support organization, is not permitted in the library. See Maine State Government 9.4.A No Solicitation Policy – General: <https://www.maine.gov/bhr/state-hr-professionals/rules-policies/policy-practices-manual/No-Solicitation-Policy-General>

Abuse Computer Privileges

- Viewing inappropriate content is not allowed. – See Maine State Library Computer Use and Internet Safety Policy, <https://www.maine.gov/msl/about/policies/aup.htm>

Enforcement

The State Librarian delegates authority to enforce these rules to the library staff. Staff members are well-trained professionals who strive to provide excellent service to every patron. The staff has the authority to ask disruptive patrons whose behavior monopolizes their attention and/or restricts others' use of the library to leave. Security officers and/or police officers may be present during business hours to aid the staff in maintaining an orderly atmosphere. Patrons involved in criminal behavior against the library will be prosecuted. Chronic offenders will be denied use of the library.

Every effort will be made to respond to potentially difficult circumstances of user behavior in a timely, respectful, direct, and open manner that is consistent and fair. We prioritize building relationships with our patrons to encourage appropriate and successful use of the library. Our enforcement is designed to maintain a safe and welcoming library, and to teach anyone who violates this policy how to better behave so as to maintain library access.

- Unlawful activities will be reported to local law enforcement agencies.
- For violations unlikely to cause immediate harm to others and not perceived to be threatening, the person violating the rules will be given at one warning by library staff; if behavior continues, the person will be asked to leave the premises for the day.
- For violations of these rules that cause or are likely to cause immediate harm to others, the person violating the rules may be immediately excluded from the library without first being given a warning. Refusal to leave when requested may result in criminal trespass issued by Capitol Police.
- In the case of a minor being excluded, every attempt will be made to contact the child's parent or guardian to give note of the exclusion.

Exclusions may be made for progressively longer times for repeated violations or when harm or potential harm is involved, ranging in time from one week to permanent exclusion and loss of all library privileges. Library staff may interview witnesses and use security video footage. If additional information surfaces about an infraction, an exclusion length may be adjusted by the State Librarian or designee.

Appeal

A patron who has been excluded from the library may appeal the notice in writing to the State Librarian within 10 days of issuance. The State Librarian will schedule a hearing, which shall not take place more than two weeks after receipt of the written request. The hearing will be informal, and the State Librarian will consider testimony from library staff involved in the incident, from the person requesting the hearing, and from any other witnesses to the incident. At the conclusion of the hearing, the State Librarian may affirm, modify, or cause the notice to be canceled. A written copy of the decision will be delivered or mailed within 10 days to the person making the appeal.

The State Librarian's final decision can be appealed to the Maine Library Commission (MLC), in writing to the Chair of the MLC within 10 days of the date noted on the written decision by the State Librarian. The MLC will take up that appeal at their next scheduled regular meeting date. If the second written appeal is received in writing less than 10 days before the next scheduled MLC meeting, the appeal will be heard by the MLC at the next subsequent MLC meeting in order to allow sufficient time for the MLC members to receive and review materials regarding the appeal request. The MLC may affirm, modify, or cause the notice to be canceled. A written copy of the MLC decision will be mailed within 10 days to the person making the appeal.

Reviewed and approved by the Maine Library Commission, [month, day, year]

Maine Library Commission

Remote Meeting Policy

Effective _____

The Maine Library Commission (Commission) allows participation in its public meetings by remote methods in accordance with [1 MRS §403-B\(1\)](#).

"Remote methods" means telephonic or video technology allowing simultaneous reception of information and may include other means when such means are necessary to provide reasonable accommodation to a person with a disability.

Individual members may attend a meeting of the Commission by a remote method when a member determines that their physical presence is not practicable. If a Commission member is attending remotely, they must have the ability to use a microphone, to mute/unmute as needed for roll call votes and meeting discussion participation and have their camera on during the meeting so they are visible to other Commission members and the public. The function in the virtual platform labeled chat or its equivalent will not be enabled for any Commission meeting.

Members of the public will be provided with a meaningful opportunity to attend by remote methods when members of the Commission participate by remote methods, and reasonable accommodation may be provided when necessary to provide access to individuals with disabilities. When the Commission allows or is required to provide an opportunity for public input during a meeting, an effective means of communication between the members of the Commission and the public will be provided, such as access to microphones or other methods.

Notice of the meeting will be provided as required in [Section 406 of the Freedom of Access Act](#). When the public may attend by remote methods, the meeting notice will include the means by which members of the public may access the meeting using remote methods. For individuals with disabilities seeking a reasonable accommodation, the notice will identify the specific individual to contact about arranging for the accommodation. The notice will also identify a location for members of the public to attend in person.

The Commission will make all documents and other materials considered by the Commission available, electronically or otherwise, to the public who attend by remote methods to the same extent customarily available to members of the public who attend the proceedings of the public body in person.



State of Maine

Petition to Require Agency Rulemaking

DATE FILED
With Secretary of State

Summary of proposed new or amended rule:

INSTRUCTIONS FOR CIRCULATION

<p>Signers of the Petition MUST:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ RESIDE in Maine and be REGISTERED TO VOTE ▪ SIGN name as it appears on the voting list ▪ Sign ONLY ONCE ▪ NOT sign another's name ▪ PRINT name; date of signing; street address & municipality of residence (unless printed by circulator) <p>NOTE: Registered voters physically unable to sign, who have filed an alternative signature statement pursuant to 21-A M.R.S. §153-A, may direct another Maine registered voter to sign the petition in their presence. The authorized individual must sign her or his name, the assisted voter's name, attest to signing on the voter's behalf, and complete all information on both lines (for the voter and the assistant).</p>	<p>Petition Circulators MUST:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ COMPLETE the circulator's verification ▪ TAKE THE OATH before a notary public prior to submission of petitions to registrar ▪ NOT COLLECT SIGNATURES after taking oath <p>WARNING: MAKING A FALSE STATEMENT BY THE CIRCULATOR, SIGNING A PETITION WITH THE NAME OF ANOTHER, OR SIGNING A NAME MORE THAN ONCE ON THESE PETITIONS IS A CLASS E CRIME.</p>
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THE FULL TEXT OF THE PROPOSED RULE must be attached to each circulated petition and must be printed in at least 12-point font. If the proposed rule is longer than one page, then the copy of the rule attached to the petition must be a two-sided copy.

Individuals should not sign a petition if the full text of the proposed rule is not attached to it.

For Registrar use only	Signature of Voter (Not Printed Name)	Printed Name of Voter (Not Signature)	Date Signed	Actual Street Address (Not P.O. Box)	Municipality (Where Registered)
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For Registrar use only	Signature of Voter (Not Printed Name)	Printed Name of Voter (Not Signature)	Date Signed	Actual Street Address (Not P.O. Box)	Municipality (Where Registered)
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Circulator's Oath

I hereby make oath that I am the Circulator of this petition; that I personally witnessed all of the signatures to this petition; and, to the best of my knowledge and belief, each signature is that of the person whose name it purports to be. If any voter was unable to sign due to a physical disability, I hereby verify, that the voter authorized another voter to sign at the voter's direction and in the voter's presence.

Signature of Circulator _____ *Printed Name of Circulator* _____

Signature of Notary _____ *Printed Name of Notary* _____

Subscribed to and sworn before me on this date: _____ Date my Notary Commission expires: _____
(Date must be completed by Notary)

Registrar's Certification

Municipality _____ TOTAL VALID _____ TOTAL INVALID _____

I hereby certify that the names of all the petitioners listed as valid appear on the voting list as registered voters in this municipality, in the electoral division named in the petition.

DATE & TIME PETITION RECEIVED:

Signature of Registrar: _____

Date petition certified: _____