

STATE OF MAINE COMMISSION ON GOVERNMENTAL ETHICS AND ELECTION PRACTICES 135 STATE HOUSE STATION AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0135

To: Interested Parties

From: Jonathan Wayne, Executive Director

Date: April 1, 2024

Re: Invitation to Comment on Proposed Rule Amendments

Political Spending in Maine by Foreign Governments, Revised

The Maine Ethics Commission invites a second round of comments on *revised* proposed amendments to the Commission's rules to implement 21-A M.R.S. § 1064, which prohibits foreign governments from making contributions and expenditures to influence elections in Maine. The initial feedback received from the public in the winter of 2024 prompted the Commission to revise the initial proposed amendments to the Commission's rules.

A link to the revised and initial proposed amendments is posted in the notices section of the Commission's <u>website</u>. The Commission's current rules may be found under the Laws & Rules tab.

The *revised* proposed amendments provide guidance concerning which entities owned or controlled by a foreign government are covered by 21-A M.R.S. §1064 and the activities that are prohibited under the new law. The amendments are intended to assist media providers in establishing policies, procedures, and controls that will comply with §1064.

Interested parties are invited to provide their written comments to <u>Julie.Aube@maine.gov</u> no later than May 1, 2024.

The Commission will consider written comments only at the May 29, 2024 meeting.

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