***Sample notice to send to your MainePERS-eligible, non-participating employees who have been employed by you for less than five years or who reached or will reach their 5th year of employment with you between November 1, 2021 and November 1, 2022:***

EMPLOYER NAME decided to participate in the new provision in MainePERS Rule Chapter 803 that allows delayed election of membership to MainePERS. This provision provides eligible employees who initially declined to participate in the MainePERS pension program an opportunity to reconsider this decision during their first five (5) years of employment.

**What does this mean?**

If you are an employee with less than 5 years of service or if you reached or will reach your 5th year of employment with us between November 1, 2021 and November 1, 2022, you will have the opportunity to join the MainePERS Participating Local District Consolidated Plan (PLD) during open enrollment which will run from September 1, 2022 through November 1, 2022.

Eligible employees must complete a *Limited Period Open Enrollment Application for Membership* during the open enrollment period and indicate if you wish to participate in the PLD Plan or continue to decline participation. The Limited Period Open Enrollment Application for Membership must be **completed and returned to your personnel office by no later than November 1, 2022**.

MainePERS is currently scheduling Zoom informational sessions for any employees that have questions about this new provision. You must register to attend any of the below sessions by calling 1-800-451-9800 or emailing PLD@mainepers.org. Name, phone and Employer will be required when registering. You will then get the zoom link confirming your registration. The Zoom sessions will run about an hour to an hour and half.

**Sessions**

Monday, August 22 at Noon

Monday, August 29 at 2:30 PM

Wednesday, September 21 at 10 AM

Wednesday, October 19 at 9 AM

At these sessions important information will be outlined for employees to consider as you make your decision. Including the following:

* Employees joining under this provision will not have an option to buy back service years.
* Employee contributions who join under this provision will be taxable for both federal and state income tax purposes and identified as after-tax contributions.
* Employees making the election to join the MainePERS PLD Plan continue to do so whenever employed by EMPLOYER NAME, now or in the future.

**Employees are strongly encouraged to attend a session to learn more about this open enrollment option.**