MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2025

Legislative Document

No. 1031

H.P. 660

House of Representatives, March 14, 2025

An Act to Allow Time-share Associations to Charge Credit Card Surcharges

Received by the Clerk of the House on March 12, 2025. Referred to the Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

ROBERT B. HUNT Clerk

R(+ B. Hunt

Presented by Representative MORRIS of Turner. Cosponsored by Representative: QUINT of Hodgdon.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 33 MRSA §596 is enacted to read:

§596. Surcharge permitted for time-share association or managing entity

Notwithstanding Title 9-A, section 8-509, subsection 1, a time-share association or managing entity may impose a surcharge for payments made with a credit card or debit card for fees or assessments on a time-share owner or for the provision of a specific service provided by that time-share association or managing entity if the surcharge:

- 1. Disclosed. Is disclosed clearly to the time-share owner prior to payment; and
- 2. Does not exceed service cost. Does not exceed the costs associated with providing the credit card or debit card service that are directly incurred by the time-share association or managing entity or assessed by an authorized 3rd-party payment service provider for a credit card or debit card transaction. If there is not a cost assessed by an authorized 3rd-party payment service provider for a debit card transaction, the time-share association or managing entity may not impose a surcharge associated with a debit card transaction.

A time-share association or managing entity shall disclose to the time-share owner that the surcharge may be avoided if the time-share owner makes payments by cash, check or other means that is not a credit card or debit card. A time-share association or managing entity is not subject to any liability to the issuer of a credit card or an authorized 3rd-party payment service provider for nonpayment of credit card charges by the time-share owner.

20 SUMMARY

This bill authorizes a time-share association or managing entity that charges an assessment or fee to impose a surcharge on a time-share owner that uses a credit card or debit card to make payments as long as the surcharge is clearly disclosed prior to payment and the amount of the surcharge does not exceed the costs associated with providing the credit card or debit card service that are directly incurred by the association or managing entity or assessed by an authorized 3rd-party payment service provider for a credit card or debit card transaction.