

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2025

Legislative Document

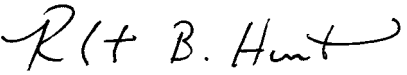
No. 1946

H.P. 1305

House of Representatives, May 7, 2025

An Act to Clarify the Eligibility of Certified Recovery Residences for Bridging Rental Assistance Program Housing Vouchers

Reference to the Committee on Health and Human Services suggested and ordered printed.


ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative WARREN of Scarborough.
Cosponsored by Representatives: CLUCHEY of Bowdoinham, DHALAC of South Portland,
DODGE of Belfast, GOLEK of Harpswell, MALON of Biddeford, RANA of Bangor, YUSUF
of Portland, Senator: BEEBE-CENTER of Knox.

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

Sec. 1. 34-B MRSA §3012 is enacted to read:

§3012. Certified recovery residences eligible for Bridging Rental Assistance Program

1. Definitions. As used in this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

A. "Certified recovery residence" means a residence that is certified pursuant to the requirements established in Title 5, section 20005, subsection 22.

B. "Program" means the Bridging Rental Assistance Program established in section 3011 and administered by the department.

2. Eligibility of certified recovery residences. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, a certified recovery residence is eligible to accept program housing vouchers, as long as the certified recovery residence meets all applicable standards and conditions established by the department for the program.

3. Eligibility of residents. An individual residing in a certified recovery residence is eligible to apply for a program housing voucher, as long as the individual meets all applicable standards and conditions established by the department for the program. Residency in a certified recovery residence may not be construed as a barrier to application or receipt of such a voucher.

4. Guidance. The department shall provide guidance to certified recovery residences and housing assistance programs to ensure consistent application of this section, including public education efforts to inform residents of certified recovery residences and providers in certified recovery residences of their rights and responsibilities under this section.

5. Rulemaking. The department shall adopt or amend rules as necessary to implement the provisions of this section. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

SUMMARY

This bill provides that certified recovery residences that are certified pursuant to the requirements established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 20005, subsection 22 are eligible to accept housing vouchers under the Bridging Rental Assistance Program as long as they meet all applicable program standards and conditions. It also provides that individuals residing in certified recovery residences are eligible to apply for Bridging Rental Assistance Program housing vouchers as long as they meet all applicable program standards and conditions.