MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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To Doris St. Pierre, Secretary, Real Estate Commission

Re: "Closing Statement"

We have your inquiry of March 26th, in which you ask if the Commission can make a ruling forcing real estate brokers and salesmen to give a "closing statement" in each transaction.

We feel that we must answer this question in the negative. Although there is some doubt in my mind as to what exactly a closing statement consists of, it is immaterial for the purposes of answering the inquiry.

The Maine Real Estate Commission is a body which in essence is a licensing body only. Through the issuance and revocation of licenses they attempt to control real estate brokers and salesmen so that citizens within the State will be protected against certain unscrupulous people. This is the limit to which the Commission may operate.

The only power to make rules and regulations is found in Section 1 of Chapter 75, where it is provided that they may make such rules and regulations as they deem proper relating to public inspection of Commission records. Other than that, no further rule-making power appears.

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Roger A. Putnam Assistant Attorney General

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