

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ND  
May 4, 1964

Research & Planning Division  
Economic Development

Richard F. Cahill, Urban Renewal Consult-  
ant

John W. Benoit, Assistant

Attorney General

Use of Urban Renewal Funds for Demonstration Study.

FACTS:

The 99th Maine Legislature enacted "An Act Creating Municipal Urban Renewal Authorities," P. L. 1959, c. 359. Section two of the Act amended R. S., c. 38-A, § 4, VIII by adding thereto the underlined words as follows:

"'VIII. Assist in planning and executing any public or private project involving federal grants or loans; advise, confer and otherwise cooperate with municipal planning boards, agencies, officials, civic and other groups and citizens in matters relating to urban renewal, zoning, and planning relating to schools, housing, health, land use controls, assessment and taxation, and other objectives; initiate, encourage and assist local planning boards and other municipal agencies and officials in regional planning and urban renewal.'"

The Act also provided an appropriation of moneys as follows:

"Sec. 5. Appropriation. There is appropriated from any moneys in the General Fund not otherwise appropriated the sum of \$25,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1960 and the sum of \$25,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1961 to carry out the provisions of section 2 of this Act."

Further appropriations have been made by the Legislature for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of R. S., c. 38-A, § 4, VIII.

Your Department desires to contract with the Federal Housing and Home Finance Agency for a state-wide demonstration study on urban renewal. The study would be performed over a five-year period. We have learned from your Department that funds are available to cover the program.

Richard F. Cahill

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May 4, 1964

QUESTION:

Whether R. S., c. 38-A, § 4, VIII authorizes your Department to so contract with the Federal Agency?

ANSWER:

Yes.

REASON:

The language of the Legislative mandate in R. S., c. 38-A, § 4, VIII is sufficiently broad in scope as to encompass the contemplated contract.

John W. Benoit  
Assistant Attorney General

JWB/slf