

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 1642

H. P. 1325

House of Representatives, April 12, 1977

Referred to the Committee on State Government. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Brenerman of Portland.

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STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-SEVEN

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**AN ACT to Require Housing Authorities and Other Agencies to Submit  
Annual Reports about Housing Programs.**

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

5 MRSA § 3306-A, is enacted to read:

§ 3306-A. Housing reports

1. Intent and purpose. It is the intent of the Legislature to promote the development of coordinated policies, programs, and services in order to more adequately address the basic housing needs of the people of the State of **Maine**. It is the purpose of this section to encourage such coordination by ensuring that the Governor and the Legislature are periodically informed about the various types of housing programs conducted and services provided in the State to meet such needs.

2. Definitions. For the purposes of this section, unless the context indicates otherwise, the following words shall have the following meanings:

A. The word "corporation" means any private non-profit housing development corporation operating in the State;

B. The words "housing programs and services" mean any of the following activities:

- (1) Financing of single and multi-family homes;
- (2) The provision of home repair loans or grants;
- (3) The provision of home counseling and housing advocacy services;

- (4) The provision of direct services, such as home repairs and weatherization;
- (5) Tenant-landlord mediation;
- (6) The provision of rent supplements; and
- (7) Planning for current and prospective housing needs;

C. The word "instrumentality" means a department, agency, board, commission, authority or other instrumentality of the State; or an authority, commission or other instrumentality of a municipality or municipalities which conducts or provides any of the housing programs and services specified in paragraph B.

3. Annual report required. Each instrumentality and each corporation shall prepare and submit to the State Planning Office a report of its housing programs and services by no later than October 15th of every year. Each of these instrumentalities and corporations shall prepare its report according to the format developed by the State Planning Office.

4. Contents of reports. Each report submitted pursuant to subsection 3 shall include the following information and may include such other information as the State Planning Office finds necessary to carry out the purposes of this section.

A. For each housing program and service of the instrumentality or corporation there shall be a summary of the objectives, a reference to the authorizing statutes and rules, a description of the responsible organizational unit within the instrumentality or corporation, and a description of other programs and services with similar, the same or complementary objectives.

B. There shall be a financial statement for the year immediately preceding, the year of, and the year immediately following the year of the submittal of the report which shall include for each housing program and service of the instrumentality or corporation, the amount of revenue by source, and the amount of expenditures by program or service. For the purposes of this paragraph the word "year" shall, where possible, mean a fiscal year ending June 30th.

C. There shall be an analysis, quantified as much as possible, of the extent to which the objectives of each housing program and service of the instrumentality or corporation have been reached and, where possible, a plan for how the objectives of each program and service will be met during the next 5 years.

D. There shall be an estimate of the total need for each particular type of program or service described in paragraph A and of the extent to which the total need is being met.

5. State Planning Office. In addition to the other powers designated under this chapter, the State Planning office shall have the authority to take actions pursuant to the purposes of this section, which are necessary to ensure

that the Governor and Legislature are provided with information about housing programs and services in the State. This office shall carry out the following responsibilities.

A. The office shall design a format for the reporting of information by instrumentalities and corporations pursuant to subsection 3.

B. The office shall provide copies of the format to each instrumentality required to submit a report under subsection 3 by no later than March 15th of every year.

C. The office shall prepare a comprehensive report of statewide housing programs and services and shall submit this report to the Governor and the Legislature by no later than January 15th of every year.

This comprehensive report shall include at least the following information:

(1) A summary and evaluation of and any necessary supplementation to the information provided in the reports submitted pursuant to subsection 3;

(2) A description of federal programs operating in the State, including an analysis of how and to what extent these programs and services meet statewide housing need;

(3) An analysis of current statewide housing stock and current statewide housing need and an estimate of housing stock and need over the next 5 years including a description of assumptions on which the determination of housing need is based;

(4) An identification of actual or potential sources of revenue, including local, state, federal and private sources, for housing programs and services throughout the State; and

(5) Recommendations for coordinating and improving the efforts of the various instrumentalities, corporations and federal agencies to meet the housing needs of the people of the State.

6. Cooperation. The State Planning Office shall consult with the Maine State Housing Authority as it carries out the responsibilities designated in subsection 4, paragraphs A and C.

#### STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to require agencies involved in housing activities to prepare annual reports of their activities. The State Planning Office is responsible for pulling together all of these reports into one comprehensive report to be submitted to the Legislature and to the Governor. The Maine State Housing Authority is directed to cooperate with the State Planning Office in the preparation of the comprehensive report.

The intent of this bill is to encourage the coordination of the many and varied housing programs and services in the State.