

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(New Title)
New Draft of H. P. 962, L. D. 1240
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1657

H. P. 1469

House of Representatives, June 4, 1979

Reported by the Majority from the Committee on State Government. Printed
under Joint Rules No. 2.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-NINE

AN ACT to Provide an Executive Department Focus for Housing Affairs.

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

5 MRSA c. 314 is enacted to read:

CHAPTER 314

HOUSING AFFAIRS COORDINATION

AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT

§ 3331. Title

This chapter shall be known as the "Housing Affairs Coordination and
Accountability Act."

§ 3332. Policy and purpose

The Legislature declares:

1. **Housing needs.** That there is a continuing need for safe, decent and
reasonably priced housing in Maine; and that housing construction and
rehabilitation activities are important to the Maine economy and tax revenues;

2. **Housing funding.** That government housing programs are funded predominantly by federal sources and that positive efforts are required for the State to obtain a fair share of these funds;

3. **Program coordination.** That there is not sufficient coordination between numerous federally funded housing programs operated directly by federal agencies and through state and local agencies; and

4. **Program accountability.** That there is no centralized effort at the state level to review and improve publicly funded housing programs.

The Legislature declares it to be in the public interest that within the Executive Department there be a focus for housing policy development, coordination and evaluation in order to promote the maximum feasible effectiveness of housing-related activities undertaken by federal, state, regional and local agencies in Maine, and that all state agencies shall cooperate toward this end.

§ 3333. Coordinator of Housing Affairs within the Executive Department

The Governor shall designate a Coordinator of Housing Affairs within the Executive Department to fulfill the purposes of this chapter.

1. **Powers and duties.** The coordinator shall have the following powers and duties:

A. Seek sources of federal housing funding and propose ways to make more efficient and effective use of state and federal housing-related funds;

B. Convene and be chairman of meetings of state agencies involved in housing activities in order to promote coordination and review of these activities. Representatives of relevant federal, regional and local agencies shall be invited to attend these meetings;

C. Provide the Governor with current assessment, review and comment on federal and state housing programs and policies;

D. Request information, assistance and advice from government agencies and other sources necessary to carry out the duties of the coordinator; and

E. Provide information and assistance to municipalities and to State, local and regional agencies, including nonprofit organizations involved in housing activities.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this new draft is to require the Governor to designate a Coordinator of Housing Affairs within the Executive Department to seek federal funds for housing, promote coordination of housing programs, advise the Governor and provide information and assistance to governmental and nongovernmental organizations.