

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

NO. 1129

H.P. 838 House of Representatives, April 7, 1987
Reference to the Committee on Taxation suggested and
ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk
Presented by Representative SOUCY of Kittery.
Cosponsored by Representatives MILLS of Bethel and MAYO
of Thomaston.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-SEVEN

**AN ACT to Provide Property Tax Relief for
Homestead Property.**

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

36 MRSA §656-A is enacted to read:

§656-A. Homestead

The following estates are exempt from taxation:

1. Primary residence exempt. Ten percent of the
just value of the estate used as the primary resi-
dence of the owner.

A. For the purposes of this section, "primary
residence" means the residence occupied by the

1 owner for over 50% of the year for which the ex-
2 emption is claimed.

3 B. No exemption may be granted under this sec-
4 tion unless the person claiming the exemption has
5 owned the property to which the exemption applies
6 for at least the 15 years immediately preceding
7 the year in which the claim for the exemption is
8 filed.

9 STATEMENT OF FACT

10 Development pressure is raising property values
11 beyond the level at which many people can afford to
12 pay property taxes. This bill exempts 10% of the val-
13 ue of property occupied by the owner as the principal
14 residence. The bill defines primary residence as the
15 residence occupied by the owner for over 1/2 the
16 year. Only property owners who have owned the proper-
17 ty for the 15 years preceding the filing of the claim
18 for the exemption are eligible for the exemption.

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