

(EMERGENCY) (New Draft of S.P. 168, L.D. 472) (New Title) FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1817

S.P. 616

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7 8 In Senate, June 11, 1987

Reported by Senator Andrews of Cumberland for the Committee on Economic Development and printed under Joint Rule 2. Original Bill sponsored by Senator Theriault of Aroostook. Cosponsored by: Representative Clark of Millinocket, Representative Lisnik of Presque Isle, Speaker Martin of Eagle Lake.

JOY J. O'BRIEN, Secretary of the Senate

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT to Provide for the Compilation of Data and Information Relating to Reasons for Residential Mortgage Foreclosures in Maine.

Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

9 Whereas, there is very limited information relat-10 ing to residential mortgage foreclosures in the 11 State; and

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1 Whereas, there are many banks, including federal-2 ly chartered banks, savings and loan banks and mort-3 gage companies which are not required to report to 4 the Bureau of Banking; and

5 Whereas, the State has experienced the loss or 6 decline of several significant employers or firms 7 which has created serious economic dislocation in 8 several regions of the State; and

9 Whereas, a number of families may have lost their 10 homes or may lose their homes as industries and re-11 gions experience further economic distress; and

12 Whereas, the extent of the impact of economic 13 distress upon residential mortgagees needs to be de-14 termined before any remedial approaches can be devel-15 oped; and

16 Whereas, the data and information required for 17 this study needs to be developed as soon as possible; 18 and

19 Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, 20 these facts create an emergency within the meaning of 21 the Constitution of Maine and require the following 22 legislation as immediately necessary for the preser-23 vation of the public peace, health and safety; now, 24 therefore,

25 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as 26 follows:

Sec. 1. Study and analysis. The Maine State
Housing Authority shall conduct a study of residential mortgage foreclosures in the State to determine
the underlying reasons for these foreclosures.

31 Sec. 2. Bureau of Banking. The Bureau of Bank-32 ing shall cooperate with the Maine State Housing Au-33 thority by providing data and other information nec-34 essary for the Maine State Housing Authority to con-35 duct this study and by encouraging financial institutions and private mortgage lenders to work 36 with the 37 Maine State Housing Authority to undertake this 38 study.

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Sec. 3. State agencies. The State Development Office, the State Planning Office, the Department of Labor and regional planning and economic development organizations shall cooperate with the Maine State Housing Authority by providing the authority with economic data reflecting economic conditions of the State and the ability of homeowners to make mortgage payments, such as plant closing data, unemployment data and any other information that the Maine State , Housing Authority finds necessary to conduct this study.

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Sec. 4. Residential mortgage holding institutions. The Governor and Legislature invite and urge financial institutions and private mortgage companies holding mortgages of residential property in this State to cooperate with the Maine State Housing Authority and provide the Maine State Housing Authority with historic and current data and information about foreclosures on residential mortgages held by these institutions and companies.

21 Sec. 5. Report The Maine State Housing Authori-22 ty shall report the findings of its study and any 23 necessary implementing legislation designed to remedy 24 the problem to the Joint Standing Committee on Eco-25 nomic Development to the First Regular Session of 26 the ll4th Legislature.

27 Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited 28 in the preamble, this Act shall take effect when ap-29 proved.

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STATEMENT OF FACT

The intent of the new draft is to develop data and information describing the extent of foreclosures in Maine, the underlying reasons for foreclosures on residential mortgages and the extent to which economic dislocation is the cause of these foreclosures. The Maine State Housing Authority shall conduct the study with the cooperation of the Bureau of Banking, the State Planning Office, the State Development Office, the Department of Labor and regional economic development organizations. The Maine State Housing Authority will report the findings of this study along with any necessary implementing legislation to the First Regular Session of the ll4th Legislature.

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