

DATE: 2-9-98

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L.D. 1929

(Filing No. H-787)

BANKING AND INSURANCE

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STATE OF MAINE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 118TH LEGISLATURE SECOND REGULAR SESSION

18 COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "I" to H.P. 1376, L.D. 1929, Bill, "An 20 Act Concerning Notices Given in Connection with Mortgage Foreclosures"

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting 24 clause and before the summary and inserting in its place the following:

'Sec. 1. 14 MRSA §6111, sub-§1, as amended by PL 1995, c. 654, §1, is further amended to read:

30 1. Notice; payment. With respect to mortgages upon residential property located in this State when the mortgagor is occupying all or a portion of the property as the mortgagor's 32 primary residence and the mortgage secures a loan for personal, 34 family or household use, the mortgagee may not accelerate maturity of the unpaid balance of the obligation or otherwise 36 enforce the mortgage because of a default consisting of the mortgagor's failure to make any required payment, tax payment or insurance premium payment, by any method authorized by this 38 chapter until at least 30 days after the date that written notice is given by the mortgagee to the mortgagor and any cosigner 40 against whom the mortgagee is enforcing the obligation secured by the mortgage at the last known addresses of the mortgagor and any 42 cosigner that the mortgagor has the right to cure the default by full payment of all amounts that are due without acceleration, 44 including reasonable interest and late charges specified in the mortgage or note as well as reasonable attorney's fees. If the 46 mortgagor tenders payment of the amounts before the date specified in the notice, the mortgagor is restored to all rights 48 under the mortgage deed as though the default had not occurred.

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Sec. 2. 14 MRSA §6111, sub-§3, as amended by PL 1995, c. 654, §3, is further amended to read:

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4 Notice procedure. A mortgagee gives shall provide 3. notice to a mortgagor and any cosigner under this section by б mailing-the--notice-by-cortified-mail--return-receipt-requested. If-the-notice-is-undeliverable-by-certified-mail-,--the-mertgagee 8 must -- send -- the -- notice -- to -- the - mortgagor -- and -- any -- cesigner -- by ordinary-mail---The-time-when-notice-is-given-is-the-date-the 10 mertgager-er-any-cosigner-signs-the-receipt-er-if-the-notice-is undeliverable-by-certified mail, -the date-the-notice-was cont-by 12 ordinary-mail. to the last known addresses of the mortgagor and cosigner by:

A. Certified mail, return receipt requested. For the16purposes of this paragraph, the time when the notice is
given to the mortgagor or cosigner is the date the mortgagor18or cosigner signs the receipt or, if the notice is
undeliverable, the date the post office last attempts to
deliver it; or

B. Ordinary first class mail, postage prepaid. For the purposes of this paragraph, the time when the notice is given to the mortgagor or cosigner is the date when the mortgagor or cosigner receives that notice. A post office department certificate of mailing to the mortgagor or cosigner is conclusive proof of receipt on the 3rd calendar day after mailing.

Sec. 3. 14 MRSA §6111, sub-§4, as enacted by PL 1995, c. 654, §4, is repealed.

Sec. 4. 14 MRSA §6111, sub-§5 is enacted to read:

5. Exceptions. This section does not apply to:

A. A mortgage subject to the provisions of Title 9-A, section 5-111 or a mortgage, other than a first lien mortgage, that is made subject to the provisions of Title 9-A, section 5-111 by agreement of the parties to the mortgage;

B. A mortgage that contains a requirement that a
reinstatement notice, a notice of right to cure or an
equivalent notice be given to the mortgagor at least 30 days
prior to accelerating the maturity of the unpaid balance of
the obligation or otherwise enforcing the mortgage against
the mortgagor, if the mortgagee gives such a notice to the
mortgagor and to any cosigner against whom the mortgage; or

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C. A mortgage when the mortgagee accelerates the maturity of the unpaid balance of the obligation or otherwise enforces the mortgage on or after July 4, 1996 if the mortgage meets the requirements of paragraph A or B.'

Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the summary the following:

FISCAL NOTE

The Office of Consumer Credit Regulation and the Bureau of Banking within the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation will incur some minor additional costs to administer certain notice requirements pertaining to mortgage foreclosures. These costs can be absorbed within the agencies' existing budgeted resources.'

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SUMMARY

This amendment replaces and clarifies the bill. It requires that at least 30 days' notice of right to cure be given by mortgagees to any cosigners against whom the mortgagee seeks to enforce the loan or obligation securing the mortgage. It allows notice of right to cure to mortgagors and cosigners to be provided by either certified mail or ordinary mail consistent with the notice of right to cure provisions for consumer credit transactions under the Maine Consumer Credit Code.

32 The amendment exempts from the requirements of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 14, section 6111 mortgages subject to the 34 notice of right to cure provisions of the Maine Consumer Credit Code; mortgages other than first mortgages made subject to the 36 Code by agreement of the parties; and mortgages containing a 30-day notice of right to cure provision when notice is given to 38 the mortgagor and to any cosigner against whom the mortgagee seeks to enforce the mortgage.

The amendment makes the exemptions from the Title 14, 42 section 6111 notice requirements applicable to mortgages enforced on or after July 4, 1996.

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The amendment also adds a fiscal note to the bill.

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