

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2021

Legislative Document

No. 1464

H.P. 1080

House of Representatives, April 12, 2021

An Act To Improve Accessibility of Affordable Housing Data

Received by the Clerk of the House on April 8, 2021. Referred to the Committee on Labor and Housing pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Speaker FECTEAU of Biddeford.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 30-A MRSA §4748** is enacted to read:

3 **§4748. Rental assistance reports**

4 **1. Federal rental assistance report.** The Maine State Housing Authority annually
5 shall report the percentage of tenant-based housing choice vouchers under section 4702,
6 subsection 1, paragraph C-1 issued by the Maine State Housing Authority and all other
7 authorities for the previous year that were used to obtain rental housing and, for a tenant-
8 based housing choice voucher issued for the previous year that was not used to obtain rental
9 housing, the reason, if available, why the voucher was not used, to the joint standing
10 committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over labor and housing matters. An
11 authority annually shall provide the Maine State Housing Authority with information from
12 the authority to carry out the purposes of this section upon a schedule determined by the
13 Maine State Housing Authority.

14 **2. Emergency federal rental assistance.** If the Maine State Housing Authority
15 receives emergency federal rental assistance, for the period of time the Maine State
16 Housing Authority possesses and administers the assistance, the Maine State Housing
17 Authority shall submit a monthly report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature
18 having jurisdiction over labor and housing matters including:

19 A. The number of applicants for assistance;

20 B. The average amount of assistance awarded per application;

21 C. The average amount of time between when assistance was applied for and when the
22 assistance was delivered to the recipient; and

23 D. If there is an excessive delay in application processing time under paragraph C, the
24 reason, if available, for the delay.

25 **SUMMARY**

26 This bill requires the Maine State Housing Authority to report annually to the
27 Legislature information issued by the Maine State Housing Authority and local public
28 housing authorities detailing the disbursement of United States Department of Housing and
29 Urban Development tenant-based housing choice vouchers. This bill also requires that, if
30 the Maine State Housing Authority receives federal emergency housing rental assistance,
31 the Maine State Housing Authority submit for the period of time the authority possesses
32 and administers the assistance a report to the Legislature detailing information concerning
33 the disbursement of the assistance and if there is an excessive delay in application
34 processing time, the reason, if available, for the delay.