

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2023

Legislative Document

No. 1540

H.P. 992

House of Representatives, April 6, 2023

An Act to Create the Stable Home Fund Program

(EMERGENCY)

Reference to the Committee on Labor and Housing suggested and ordered printed.

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

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative MILLETT of Cape Elizabeth.
Cosponsored by Senator VITELLI of Sagadahoc and
Representatives: GATTINE of Westbrook, GOLEK of Harpswell, KESSLER of South
Portland, LOOKNER of Portland, PERRY of Calais, RANA of Bangor, WORTH of Ellsworth,
Senator: PIERCE of Cumberland.

1 require an application process for property owners, rental payment standards or unit
2 inspections.

3 **4. Eligibility.** To be eligible for the program a person must:

4 A. Earn less than 60% of the median income for the area as defined by the United
5 States Department of Housing and Urban Development under the United States
6 Housing Act of 1937, Public Law 75-412, 50 Stat. 888, Section 8; and

7 B. At the time of application to the program, not be using a federal housing voucher
8 to pay rent or live in a subsidized housing unit.

9 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation
10 takes effect when approved.

11 **SUMMARY**

12 This bill, which includes an emergency preamble and emergency clause, creates the
13 Stable Home Fund and the Stable Home Fund Program within the Maine State Housing
14 Authority. The purpose of the program is to provide persons earning up to 60% of the
15 median income for an area as defined by the United States Department of Housing and
16 Urban Development with \$300 per month in rental assistance paid directly to the landlord
17 for up to 24 months or until those persons secure housing by means of a housing voucher
18 program administered by the United States Department of Housing and Urban
19 Development under the United States Housing Act of 1937, Public Law 75-412, 50 Stat.
20 888, Section 8, as amended, or secure a subsidized housing unit.

21 The bill directs the Maine State Housing Authority to administer the program except
22 that the Maine State Housing Authority may delegate the administration of the program
23 and provide appropriate funding from the fund to a municipal housing authority with
24 respect to eligible persons located within the municipal housing authority's jurisdiction.