

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# N I N E T Y - T H I R D   L E G I S L A T U R E

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 742**

H. P. 1173

House of Representatives, February 13, 1947.

On motion of Mr. Allen of Portland tabled pending reference. Ordered printed.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Allen of Portland.

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## STATE OF MAINE

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
FORTY-SEVEN

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### AN ACT Relating to Control of Rentals.

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

**Sec. 1. Control.** All persons, partnerships, associations and corporations, either as owners or in control of dwelling houses, apartment houses, flats, rooms, rooming houses and hotel rooms, are hereby prohibited from demanding or receiving for rents or accommodations therein rentals more than 15% in excess of that paid or charged on January 1, 1947.

**Sec. 2. Stay of writ of possessions.** In all cases of forcible entry and detainer brought under the provision of chapter 109 of the revised statutes of 1944, and acts additional thereto and amendatory thereof, the judge of the court may stay the issuance of the writ of possession from time to time, the total period not to exceed 30 days from the date when the plaintiff is entitled to said writ of possession.

**Sec. 3. Redress.** Any tenant who has been charged or has paid rentals in excess of the rate as established by the provisions of section 1 shall have the right to commence or maintain in the courts of the state an action for treble damages for such excess rate, and attorneys' fees.

**Sec. 4. Exemption.** This act shall not apply to property usually denominated as seasonal.

**Sec. 5. Penalty.** Whoever violates the provisions of this act shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$25, nor more than \$500, or by imprisonment for not more than 6 months, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

**Sec. 6. Duration.** The provisions of this act shall extend only until June 30, 1949.