

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION
December 2, 2020 to March 30, 2021

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION
April 28, 2021 to July 19, 2021

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR
FIRST REGULAR SESSION
NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS
JUNE 29, 2021

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION
NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS
OCTOBER 18, 2021

PUBLISHED BY THE REVISOR OF STATUTES
IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE MAINE REVISED STATUTES ANNOTATED,
TITLE 3, SECTION 163-A, SUBSECTION 4.

Augusta, Maine
2021

actions, except that if at least 3 good faith efforts on 3 different days have been made to serve the defendant, service may be accomplished by both mailing the summons and complaint by first-class mail to the defendant's last known address and leaving the summons and complaint at the defendant's last and usual place of abode. If service has been made by mailing and posting the summons and complaint, the plaintiff shall file with the court an affidavit demonstrating that compliance with the requirement of service has occurred. When the plaintiff lives out of the State and a recognizance is required of the plaintiff, any person may recognize in the plaintiff's behalf and is personally liable.

2. Form notice. If the defendant is a residential tenant, the plaintiff shall attach to the summons and complaint that is served on the defendant as provided in subsection 1 a one-page to 2-page form notice provided by the judicial branch in consultation with other resources and posted on the publicly accessible website of the judicial branch, written in language that is plain and readily understandable by the general public, that contains at a minimum the following:

- A. A description of the court procedure to be followed in the case, including a clear explanation of the process that must be followed before a tenant is required to vacate a rental unit;
- B. A statement that failure to appear at any scheduled status conference or hearing may result in the entry of judgment in favor of the landlord, which would require the tenant to leave the rental unit;
- C. A list of rental assistance programs available to residential tenants;
- D. A list of resources that provide legal information and representation available to residential tenants;
- E. A list of resources that provide housing counseling available to residential tenants;
- F. A statement that either party may request, or the court may at any time refer the parties to, mediation on any issue; and
- G. A court-approved form to request mediation.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 317

H.P. 1195 - L.D. 1606

An Act To Expand Tenant Representation on Boards of Directors of Nonprofit Housing Corporations

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

Sec. 1. 13-B MRSA §701-A is enacted to read:

§701-A. Board of directors of a nonprofit housing corporation

A corporation organized under this Title that has an ownership interest in any multifamily rental housing shall include on its board of directors, at a minimum, one current tenant of such housing. If the corporation is unable to find a tenant to serve as a director, it shall advertise the position to current tenants on an annual basis. The name and contact information of the tenant director must be posted in a public location in each building in which the corporation has an interest. This section does not apply to a corporation that only provides emergency shelter or short-term transitional housing.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 318

H.P. 172 - L.D. 251

An Act Regarding Public Utility Assessments, Fees and Penalties

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

Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §116, sub-§1, as amended by PL 2013, c. 600, §1, is further amended to read:

1. Entities subject to assessments. Every transmission and distribution, gas, telephone and water utility and ferry subject to regulation by the commission and every qualified telecommunications provider is subject to an assessment on its intrastate gross operating revenues to produce sufficient revenue for expenditures allocated by the Legislature for the Public Utilities Commission Regulatory Fund established pursuant to this section. The budget for the Public Utilities Commission Regulatory Fund is subject to legislative review and approval in accordance with subsection 2. The portion of the total assessment applicable to each category of public utility or qualified telecommunications provider is based on an accounting by the commission of the portion of the commission's resources devoted to matters related to each category. The commission shall develop a reasonable and practicable method of accounting for resources devoted by the commission to matters related to each category of public utility or qualified telecommunications provider. Assessments on each public utility or qualified telecommunications provider within each category must be based on the utility's or qualified telecommunications provider's gross intrastate operating revenues. Within each category of public utility, the assessment must be apportioned and applied separately to investor-owned utilities and consumer-owned utilities. The portion of the assessment applicable to investor-owned utilities and