

LAWS

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION December 7, 2022 to March 30, 2023

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION April 5, 2023 to July 26, 2023

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR FIRST REGULAR SESSION NONEMERGENCY LAWS IS JUNE 29, 2023

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR FIRST SPECIAL SESSION NONEMERGENCY LAWS IS OCTOBER 25, 2023

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

Augusta, Maine 2023

CHAPTER 259

H.P. 696 - L.D. 1101

An Act to Support Lower Home Energy Costs by Establishing a Home Energy Scoring System

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

Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §10117, as enacted by PL 2009, c. 372, Pt. B, §3, is amended to read:

§10117. Energy efficiency of rental <u>residential</u> properties

1. Residential <u>rental</u> energy efficiency disclosure statement. The trust and the Maine State Housing Authority shall prepare a residential <u>rental</u> energy efficiency disclosure statement form for landlords and other lessors of residential properties to use to disclose to tenants and lessees information about the energy efficiency of the property in order to comply with Title 14, section 6030-C. The trust and the Maine State Housing Authority shall post and maintain the statement form required by this subsection on the Internet in a format that is easily accessible by the public.

2. Suggested energy efficiency standards for residential rental properties. The trust and the Maine State Housing Authority shall prepare suggested energy efficiency standards for landlords and other lessors of residential rental property that is used by a tenant or lessee as a primary residence. The trust and the Maine State Housing Authority shall post and maintain the standards required by this subsection on the Internet in a format that is easily accessible by the public.

3. Effective date. This section takes effect July 1, 2010.

4. Home energy score. By June 30, 2024, the trust shall establish a home energy scoring system for residential buildings for the purposes of evaluating a building's energy efficiency. The home energy score must estimate energy use and associated costs and assist with the identification of energy solutions to improve the building's efficiency and be consistent with the United States Department of Energy asset-based home energy score. The trust shall establish a process by which a recipient of a home energy score may voluntarily report the score to the trust. The trust shall establish and maintain a database of these home energy scores.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 260

S.P. 514 - L.D. 1277

An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding Real Property Investment by Credit Unions

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

Sec. 1. 9-B MRSA §863, as amended by PL 2017, c. 143, §10, is further amended by amending the section headnote to read:

§863. Real estate for office facilities property

Sec. 2. 9-B MRSA §863, sub-§1, as enacted by PL 1975, c. 500, §1, is amended to read:

1. Authorizing. A Except as provided by subsection 3, a credit union may invest in real estate property by the purchase of improved or unimproved real estate property, and in the erection or improvement of buildings thereon on the real property together with fixtures and equipment, for the purpose of providing offices for the transaction of its business. Such buildings may include space for rental purposes.

Sec. 3. 9-B MRSA §863, sub-§3 is enacted to read:

3. Exception. Unless prohibited by federal law, a credit union may invest in real property to facilitate a member's acquisition, financing or refinancing of owner-occupied residential property consisting of not more than 4 dwelling units located in this State. Without the prior written consent of the superintendent, the duration of an investment under this subsection may not exceed 180 days and the aggregate amount of all such outstanding investments may not exceed 10% of a credit union's total surplus.

Sec. 4. 9-B MRSA §864, sub-§1, as repealed and replaced by PL 1993, c. 99, §2, is amended to read:

1. Authorization. A credit union may invest, individually or with other credit unions or other entities, in service corporations as defined in section 131. In addition to the activities described in the definition of "service corporation" under section 131, subsection 37, service corporation activities may include investing in real property to facilitate a credit union member's acquisition, financing or refinancing of owner-occupied residential property consisting of not more than 4 dwelling units located in this State. Without the prior written consent of the superintendent, the duration of an investment under this subsection may not exceed 180 days.

See title page for effective date.