

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION
January 3, 2024 to May 10, 2024

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR
SECOND REGULAR SESSION
NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS
AUGUST 9, 2024

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

Augusta, Maine
2024

Sec. 11. 17 MRSA §1842, sub-§5-A is enacted to read:

5-A. Imposition of fine and opportunity for hearing. The Gambling Control Unit shall notify the licensee or registrant in writing that a fine is imposed pursuant to subsection 3, paragraph F and of the right to a hearing pursuant to this subsection. The licensee or registrant has the right to request a hearing before the Commissioner of Public Safety or the commissioner's designee. Upon the licensee's or registrant's request for a hearing, the Commissioner of Public Safety shall provide a hearing. The hearing must comply with the Maine Administrative Procedure Act. The purpose of the hearing is to determine whether a preponderance of the evidence establishes that the licensee or registrant or the licensee's or registrant's agent or employee violated a provision of this chapter or a rule of the Gambling Control Unit prescribed by authority of this chapter. A request for a hearing must be made no later than 10 days after the licensee or registrant is notified of the fine. The imposition of the fine must be stayed pending the hearing; the hearing must be held no later than 30 days after the date the Commissioner of Public Safety receives the request unless otherwise agreed to by the parties or continued upon request of a party for cause shown.

See title page for effective date.

**CHAPTER 579
H.P. 1310 - L.D. 2048**

**An Act to Amend the Content
of Notices Provided with
Respect to Tax Liens on
Certain Property**

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

Sec. 1. 36 MRSA §942, 3rd ¶, as enacted by PL 2017, c. 478, §2, is amended to read:

For property that constitutes a homestead for which a property tax exemption is claimed under subchapter 4-B, the tax collector shall include with the written notice authorized under this section written notice to the person named on the tax lien mortgage that that person may be eligible to file an application for tax abatement under section 841, subsection 2, indicating that the municipality, upon request, will assist the person in requesting an abatement and provide information regarding the procedures for making such a request. The notice must also indicate that the person may seek assistance from the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Bureau of Consumer Credit Protection regarding options for finding an advisor who can help the person work with the municipality to avoid tax lien foreclosure and provide information regarding ways to contact the bureau sources of assistance including legal

services providers described in Title 4, section 18-A, subsection 1, paragraph B. The Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Bureau of Consumer Credit Protection, by July 15th annually, shall provide to a statewide organization representing municipalities post on a publicly accessible website information regarding assistance in avoiding tax lien foreclosure to assist municipalities in providing the information required in the notice on accessing sources of assistance, and that information may be used by municipalities in providing the information required in the notice. Before posting this information, the bureau shall consider input, if any, received from legal services providers, counselors and state and federal agencies involved in foreclosure prevention matters.

Sec. 2. 36 MRSA §1281, as amended by PL 2019, c. 401, Pt. A, §12, is further amended to read:

§1281. Payment of taxes; delinquent taxes; publication; certificate filed in registry

Annually, after January 15th but no later than January 31st, the State Tax Assessor shall send by mail to the last known address of each owner of real estate subject to assessment under section 1602, including supplementary taxes assessed under section 1331, upon which taxes remain unpaid a notice in writing, containing a description of the real estate assessed and the amount of unpaid taxes and interest, and alleging that a lien is claimed on that real estate for payment of those taxes, interests and costs, with a demand that payment be made by the next February 21st. For property that constitutes a homestead for which a property tax exemption is claimed under chapter 105, subchapter 4-B, the State Tax Assessor shall include in the written notice written notice to the owner named on the tax lien mortgage that that owner may be eligible to file an application for tax abatement under section 841, subsection 2, indicating that the State Tax Assessor, upon request, will assist the owner in requesting an abatement and provide information regarding the procedures for making such a request. The notice must also indicate that the owner may seek assistance from the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Bureau of Consumer Credit Protection regarding options for finding an advisor who can help the owner work with the State Tax Assessor to avoid tax lien foreclosure and provide information regarding ways to contact the bureau sources of assistance including legal services providers described in Title 4, section 18-A, subsection 1, paragraph B. The Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Bureau of Consumer Credit Protection, by July 15th annually, shall provide to a statewide organization representing municipalities and to the State Tax Assessor post on a publicly accessible website information regarding assistance in avoiding tax lien foreclosure to assist municipalities and the State Tax Assessor in providing the information required in the notice on accessing sources of assistance, and that information may be used by the

