

**§4703. Declaration of necessity****1. Housing conditions.** It is declared that:

A. There exists in urban and rural areas in the State unsuitable, unsafe and overcrowded dwelling accommodations; [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

B. In these urban and rural areas within the State, there is a shortage of suitable dwelling accommodations available at rents, prices or financing terms which many residents of the State can afford and that the shortage forces some residents of the State to occupy unsuitable, unsafe and overcrowded dwelling accommodations; [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

C. These conditions, and the existence of areas in need of revitalization and redevelopment, impair economic values and tax revenues; [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

D. These conditions contribute to the poor health of the residents of these areas, cause an increase in and spread of crime and constitute a menace to the health, safety and welfare of the residents of the State; [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

E. These conditions require excessive and disproportionate expenditures of public funds for crime prevention and punishment, public health and safety, fire and accident protection and other public services and facilities; [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

F. These areas in the State cannot be cleared, nor can the shortage of suitable dwellings available at affordable rents, prices or financing terms be relieved solely through the operation of private enterprise, and that the construction, rehabilitation or improvement of dwelling accommodations would therefore not be competitive with private enterprise; [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

G. The construction, rehabilitation or improvement of dwelling accommodations would make housing available for veterans who are unable to provide themselves with decent housing on the basis of the benefits made available to them through certain government guarantees of loans to veterans for the purchase of residential property; [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

H. The clearance, planning and preparation for rebuilding of these areas, the prevention or the reduction of the underutilization and abandonment of established commercial areas and existing dwelling accommodations within the State, and the providing of affordable, safe and suitable dwelling accommodations for residents of the State are public uses and purposes for which public money may be spent and private property acquired and are governmental functions of state concern; [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

I. Residential construction activity is closely correlated with general economic activity and that the undertakings authorized by this chapter to aid the production of better housing and more desirable neighborhood and community development at lower costs will make possible a more

stable and larger volume of residential construction which will assist materially in achieving and maintaining full employment; [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

J. Federal programs to assist housing have repeatedly changed and, in the early 1980's, the Federal Government substantially reduced its housing programs and other forms of housing assistance; [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

K. By providing housing assistance to persons other than persons of low income, provision of housing assistance to persons of low income will be facilitated; and [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

L. It is in the public interest that advance preparations for these activities and for facilitating mortgage lending on affordable terms be made now, and that the necessity in the public interest for the provisions enacted is declared as a matter of legislative determination. [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

[PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

**2. Intent.** It is further declared that:

A. There are serious problems relating to the occupants of existing substandard housing in the State in both urban and rural areas and much of the existing housing in the State is in immediate need of major repair or replacement; [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

B. This chapter is intended to encourage all existing local, state and federal agencies, public and private agencies, to recognize the needs for rehabilitation and new housing and to adopt such action and practices as to promote a concerted effort to upgrade housing conditions and standards within the State; and [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

C. This chapter is intended to relieve those conditions which now exist and it is the policy of the State to assist in planning, coordinating and carrying out all existing programs that will encourage further participation by private investment, private enterprise and individual effort. [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

[PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

**3. Shortage of funds.** It is further declared that:

A. In private banking channels there have been recurrent, cyclical shortages of funds available for loans to finance dwelling accommodations; [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

B. These shortages have been exacerbated more recently by changes in the business of financial institutions, by the high cost of funds needed for loans for dwelling accommodations and by the related lack of liquidity of existing and new loans for dwelling accommodations; [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

C. These shortages have contributed to the reduction of construction of new dwelling accommodations and have hampered the rehabilitation, improvement and purchase and sale of existing dwelling accommodations; [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

D. These shortages can be expected to recur from time to time in varying degrees of severity with the adverse consequences described in this section; and [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

E. The powers and duties set forth in this chapter are to be carried out to assist in redressing these shortages. [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]  
[PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

**4. Objectives.** It is further declared that it is the policy of the State to assist its residents in securing equal opportunity for the full enjoyment of the following objectives:

A. To reside in or purchase housing which is decent, safe, independently selected, designed and located with reference to their particular needs and available at costs which they can afford; [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

B. To have available to them a wide range of privately planned, constructed and operated housing; [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

C. To have available to them such additional publicly planned, constructed and operated housing as is needed to achieve the purposes of paragraph A; [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

D. To have available from financial institutions, in addition to their usually loanable resources for home construction, mortgages and notes, additional resources and assistance as may be provided by the Maine State Housing Authority; and [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

E. To have available information and educational programs, and to conduct demonstrations of housing programs and techniques. [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]  
[PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 1987, c. 737, §§A2,C106 (NEW). PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 104, §§C8,10 (AMD).

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