

126th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2013

Legislative Document

No. 1413

S.P. 507

In Senate, April 23, 2013

An Act To Clarify Limitations on Homeowner's Insurance Policies Regarding Claims on Vacant Properties

(AFTER DEADLINE)

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 205.

Reference to the Committee on Insurance and Financial Services suggested and ordered printed.

DAREK M. GRANT Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator CRAVEN of Androscoggin.

Cosponsored by Senators: HASKELL of Cumberland, JACKSON of Aroostook, Representatives: LAJOIE of Lewiston, LIBBY of Lewiston, WERTS of Auburn.

2	Sec. 1. 24-A MRSA §3043 is enacted to read:
3	§3043. Vacant property
4 5	1. Vacant property. An insurance contract under this chapter covering a property used as a residence may disallow coverage due to the property's being vacant only for a
6 7	claim that occurs more than 60 days after the insurer's sending a statement under subsection 2 to the insured.
8 9 10 11	2. Statement. Upon receiving information that a property used as a residence and insured by the insurer is vacant, an insurer must send to the insured's address a statement that in plain language details the insurance contract's policy regarding vacant property and defines "vacant" in a clear manner understandable to a reasonable person.
12	SUMMARY
13 14 15 16 17 18	This bill requires an insurer, upon receiving information that a property used as a residence and insured by the insurer is vacant, to send a statement to the insured explaining the policy regarding vacant property and defining "vacant." This bill allows an insurer to deny coverage for a claim on a vacant property used as a residence only for a claim that occurs more than 60 days after the insurer's sending the statement to the insured.

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

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