



125th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2011

Legislative Document

No. 1341

H.P. 982

House of Representatives, March 29, 2011

An Act To Provide Rent Relief to Low-income Maine Residents

Reference to the Committee on Taxation suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Heather J.R. Priest".

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST
Clerk

Presented by Representative CHIPMAN of Portland.

Cosponsored by Representatives: BERRY of Bowdoinham, BRYANT of Windham, CAIN of Orono, CUSHING of Hampden, FLEMINGS of Bar Harbor, HARMON of Palermo, KNIGHT of Livermore Falls.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 36 MRSA §6201, sub-§11**, as amended by PL 1987, c. 839, §1, is further
3 amended to read:

4 **11. Rent constituting property taxes accrued for an elderly household.** "Rent
5 constituting property taxes accrued for an elderly household" means ~~25%~~ 100% of the
6 gross rent actually paid in cash or its equivalent in any tax year by a claimant and the
7 claimant's household solely for the right of occupancy of their Maine homestead in the
8 tax year and which rent constitutes the basis, in the succeeding calendar year, of a claim
9 for relief under this chapter by the claimant.

10 **Sec. 2. 36 MRSA §6201, sub-§11-A**, as amended by PL 2005, c. 2, Pt. E, §2 and
11 affected by §§7 and 8, is further amended to read:

12 **11-A. Rent constituting property taxes accrued for nonelderly household.** "Rent
13 constituting property taxes accrued for nonelderly household" means ~~20%~~ 100% of the
14 gross rent actually paid in cash or its equivalent in any tax year by a claimant and the
15 claimant's household solely for the right of occupancy of their Maine homestead in the
16 tax year and which rent constitutes the basis, in the succeeding calendar year, of a claim
17 for relief under this chapter by the claimant.

18 **SUMMARY**

19 This bill amends the Circuitbreaker Program to increase the percentage of rent paid
20 that may be claimed by an elderly household and a nonelderly household to 100% of the
21 gross rent actually paid; the current claim limits are 25% and 20%, respectively, of the
22 gross rent actually paid.