



# 131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2023

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Legislative Document

No. 1116

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H.P. 712

House of Representatives, March 9, 2023

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### An Act to Provide Rural Sober Living Housing for Mothers

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Reference to the Committee on Labor and Housing suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative SUPICA of Bangor.  
Cosponsored by President JACKSON of Aroostook and  
Representatives: BOYER of Poland, FAY of Raymond, GERE of Kennebunkport,  
GUERRETTE of Caribou, JAVNER of Chester, STOVER of Boothbay, Senators: MOORE of  
Washington, POULIOT of Kennebec.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §20058** is enacted to read:

3 **§20058. Rural recovery residences for mothers and children**

4 **1. Recovery residences for mothers and children.** The Maine State Housing  
5 Authority shall contract for the construction of at least 15 housing units in certified recovery  
6 residences under section 20057 that provide services to mothers recovering from substance  
7 use disorder and their minor children.

8 **2. Location.** The certified recovery residences contracted under this section must be  
9 located in counties with a county seat of no more than 35,000 residents and must be in close  
10 proximity to public transportation or provide transportation to residents of the certified  
11 recovery residences.

12 **3. Services.** A certified recovery residence must provide the following:

13 A. A central shared living and meeting space;

14 B. Recovery support services based on the needs of each resident; and

15 C. Support for reunification services with minor children based on the needs of each  
16 resident.

17 **4. Staffing.** Each certified recovery residence contracted under this section must be  
18 staffed by peer-to-peer staff, who must be paid at least livable wages, as defined in Title  
19 26, section 1-A.

20 **5. Fund.** The Rural Recovery Residence Fund is established as a nonlapsing fund to  
21 receive funds to support the activities described in this section. The Maine State Housing  
22 Authority shall distribute funds through a competitive bid process to grantees, who will  
23 provide a minimum of 1:1 matching funds.

24 **SUMMARY**

25 This bill requires the Maine State Housing Authority to contract for the construction of  
26 at least 15 housing units, to be located in certified recovery residences and in counties with  
27 a county seat of no more than 35,000 residents. The certified recovery residences are  
28 required to serve mothers recovering from substance use disorder and promote  
29 reunification with minor children and are required to be staffed with peer-to-peer staff. The  
30 bill establishes the Rural Recovery Residence Fund to receive funds to support the certified  
31 recovery residences. The bill requires that the Maine State Housing Authority distribute  
32 funds through a competitive bid process to grantees, who will provide a minimum of 1:1  
33 matching funds.