

Stakeholder Group:

A stakeholder group to examine source of income protections for renters should be tasked with:

- Why the current statute is inadequate to ensure renters do not experience discrimination because they have a housing choice voucher, General Assistance, or other form of rental assistance;
- What protections could be created in Maine law to increase landlord participation in rental assistance programs, including reviewing experiences of other states with source of income protections in place; and
- What incentives currently exist to encourage landlords to accept tenants with rental assistance.

Stakeholders should include:

- The Director of the Maine State Housing Authority or their designee;
- At least two renters with experience with Section 8 or other rental assistance programs;
- At least one renter with experience utilizing General Assistance to meet their housing needs;
- A landlord who accepts tenants with rental assistance;
- A landlord with four or fewer rental units;
- A representative from the Maine Human Rights Commission;
- A representative from the office of the Attorney General;
- An organization that provides direct legal assistance to tenants with low incomes;
- An organization with policy expertise on public benefits programs, including General Assistance and Section 8; and
- An organization providing navigation assistance to renters utilizing a rental assistance program or General Assistance.