Notice of Agency Rule-making Proposal

AGENCY:  99-346 Maine State Housing Authority

CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE:  Chapter 35, State Low Income Housing Tax Credit Rule

PROPOSED RULE NUMBER (leave blank; assigned by Secretary of State): 

CONTACT PERSON FOR THIS FILING:  Linda Uhl, Chief Counsel, Maine State Housing Authority, State House Station #89, 26 Edison Drive, Augusta, Maine 04330-6046, (207) 626-4600 (telephone), (800) 452-4668 (voice in state only) or Maine Relay 711, luhl@mainehousing.org (e-mail)

Upon sufficient notice, this notice and the proposed rule will be made available in alternative formats for persons with disabilities and in alternative languages for persons with limited English proficiency.

CONTACT PERSON FOR SMALL BUSINESS INFORMATION (if different):  Same as Contact Person

PUBLIC HEARING (if any):  A public hearing will be held on Tuesday, August 18, 2020 at 9:30 AM. To listen or testify, please contact Gerrylynn Rick er no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, August 14, 2020 at MaineHousing, 26 Edison Drive, Augusta, Maine 04330-6046; (207) 626-4600 (voice); 1-800-452-4668 (voice in state only); or 711 (Maine Relay) or via e-mail: gricker@mainehousing.org.

Upon sufficient notice, appropriate communications auxiliary aids and services will be provided to persons with disabilities and persons with limited English proficiency.

COMMENT DEADLINE:  Friday, August 28, 2020 at 5:00 PM

BRIEF *SUMMARY:  The state low income housing tax credit law was recently enacted to provide funds for the development and preservation of multi-family affordable housing. Under the law, at least 80% of the credit to be allocated in a calendar year must be set aside for the construction or adaptive reuse of buildings for new rental units. The amount of the state low income housing tax credit a project receives for such new rental units is equal to the amount of federal low income housing tax credits the project receives in conjunction with the issuance of tax exempt bonds. Over time, MaineHousing must seek to allocate 30% of the credit allocated to new rental units to senior housing and 20% of the credit allocated to new rental units to “rural areas.” In addition, at least 10% of the credit to be allocated in a calendar year, must be set aside for qualified rural development preservation projects that incur at least $100,000 in improvements.

A copy of the proposed replacement rule may be found at www.mainehousing.org.

IMPACT ON MUNICIPALITIES OR COUNTIES (if any)  None

STATUTORY AUTHORITY FOR THIS RULE:  30-A M.R.S.A. §§4722 and 4741.1 and 36 M.R.S.A. §5219-WW

SUBSTANTIVE STATE OR FEDERAL LAW BEING IMPLEMENTED (if different):  Same as above
* Check one of the following two boxes.

✓ The above summary is for use in both the newspaper and website notices.

☐ The above summary is for the newspaper notice only. A more detailed summary / basis statement is attached.

Please approve bottom portion of this form and assign appropriate AdvantageME number.

APPROVED FOR PAYMENT ___________ DATE: ______________________

(authorized signature)

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