

§4721. Creation of municipal authorities

1. Creation of housing authorities. In each municipality there is created a public body corporate and politic to be known as the "Housing Authority" of the municipality. This authority may not transact any business or exercise its powers unless the municipal legislative body declares by resolution that there is a need for an authority to function in that municipality.

A. Any housing authority created and existing under Public Law 1943, chapter 260, shall, notwithstanding the expiration of that chapter, continue in existence for the purposes of this chapter and have the powers granted by this chapter, if the legislative body of the municipality for which the housing authority was created declares by resolution that there is a need for that housing authority to exercise the powers granted by this chapter. [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

[PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

2. Procedure. The municipal legislative body shall consider the need for an authority on its own motion or upon the filing of a petition with the mayor of the city or the select board of the town. This petition must be signed by 25 voters of the city or town and assert that there is a need for an authority to function in the municipality and request that the municipal legislative body declare that need. [PL 2021, c. 275, §49 (AMD).]

3. Standard. The municipal legislative body shall adopt a resolution declaring that there is a need for an authority in the municipality if it finds that:

A. Insanitary or unsafe inhabited dwelling accommodations or blighted areas exist in the municipality; or [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

B. There is a shortage of safe or sanitary dwelling accommodations in the municipality available to persons of low income at rentals or prices that they can afford. [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

[PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

4. Appointment of commissioners. Upon the adoption of a resolution by the municipal legislative body, the mayor of the city or the select board of the town shall appoint the commissioners of the authority under section 4723, subsection 1.

[PL 2021, c. 275, §50 (AMD).]

5. Meeting with municipal legislative body. Unless the municipality and the authority agree otherwise, an authority shall meet at least annually with the legislative body of the municipality for which it is created.

[PL 2017, c. 234, §9 (NEW).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 1987, c. 737, §§A2,C106 (NEW). PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 104, §§C8,10 (AMD). PL 2017, c. 234, §9 (AMD). PL 2021, c. 275, §§49, 50 (AMD).

The State of Maine claims a copyright in its codified statutes. If you intend to republish this material, we require that you include the following disclaimer in your publication:

All copyrights and other rights to statutory text are reserved by the State of Maine. The text included in this publication reflects changes made through the First Special Session of the 132nd Maine Legislature and is current through October 1, 2025. The text

is subject to change without notice. It is a version that has not been officially certified by the Secretary of State. Refer to the Maine Revised Statutes Annotated and supplements for certified text.

The Office of the Revisor of Statutes also requests that you send us one copy of any statutory publication you may produce. Our goal is not to restrict publishing activity, but to keep track of who is publishing what, to identify any needless duplication and to preserve the State's copyright rights.

PLEASE NOTE: The Revisor's Office cannot perform research for or provide legal advice or interpretation of Maine law to the public. If you need legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.