

Statement by Dale McCormick, MaineHousing Director

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I have been privileged to serve as MaineHousing director for seven years. Now MaineHousing has a number of commissioners with different policy perspectives. These differences have led to substantial disagreement about how MaineHousing can best serve the interests of its clients and the people of Maine. In order to bring an end to the current rancor, the Board and I have concluded that it is in the best interests of the housing authority and the people of Maine to reach an agreement on an early end to my term.

I have been proud in my seven years to have worked with staff and board members to insulate 11,347 homes, help 6,814 Maine people buy their first home, build 2,942 affordable apartments for seniors and working Maine households, and become the first state housing authority to take positive steps to address climate change.

For the better part of a year, MaineHousing has been subjected to a systematic attack that's ground the important work of the agency nearly to a halt. In order to put this behind us, today I submitted to Governor LePage my resignation bringing an early end to my term as Director of MaineHousing effective March 31, 2012. I do so reluctantly, and in the hope that this will bring an immediate end to the campaign against an agency that so ably serves low and middle income Mainers.

In closing, I wish the best for the Housing Authority board, staff and new director. I'd like to thank Governor Baldacci and the Maine Legislature for this opportunity to serve, the Housing Authority staff for their dedication and support, and all of our housing partners throughout Maine who have made all our accomplishments possible. Most of all I hope that the mission of the Authority to help low-income people, help first-time homebuyers, promote energy efficiency and contribute to the revitalization of Maine's towns and cities, goes forward as strongly as ever.