

Traditional building societies promise no shift in policy

THE island's four traditional building societies have promised to continue to offer loans to Jamaicans at reasonable interest rates, according to a statement released yesterday.

This assurance has come two weeks after news broke that the societies have broken ranks with the Building Societies Association of Jamaica (BSAJ), in a bid to challenge changes to the piece of legislation which governs them.

The four building societies

recently told the Government that they will be making their own representation and separately from other building societies, when presenting their position of the legislation.

Hanover Benefit Building Society, Jamaica National Building Society, Jamaica Savings and Loan Building Society and Victoria Mutual Building Society are the island's four traditional building societies.

"The traditional building societies intend to continue to loan as much money as we can at as low a rate of interest as possible to allow more Jamaicans to own their own homes," said Karl Wright, president of Victoria Mutual Building Society. "The promotion of home ownership is the most important driving principle of a good building society."

Lanny Reynolds, the general manager of Jamaica National Building Society, spoke of the importance of saving with a building society. "It is our mission to continue to encourage people to save and to do so with institutions that are secure. There is no deposit insurance for Jamaicans. Savers should save with building societies that have a good track record and adequate reserve funds to protect the saver against loss," said Mr.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

| | |
|--|---------------|
| Police..... | 119 |
| Assistance on Telephone Calls..... | 112 |
| Fire..... | 110 |
| Addiction Alert.....0991-4146 Outside of Kingston, 967-3777 in Kingston | |
| AIDS/STD.....0991-4344 Outside of Kingston, 929-9400-9 in Kingston | |
| Alcoholics Anonymous..... | 926-5556 |
| Bureau of Woman's Affairs..... | 929-7144 |
| Crime Stop.....0991-4000 Outside of Kingston, 929-5555 in Kingston | |
| NCAS Operator..... | 922-2170-4 |
| Jamaica Public Service..... | 929-0470-1 |
| Metropolitan Parks & Market..... | 922-5445 |
| National Water Commission..... | 929-8192 |
| Office of Disaster Preparedness..... | 928-5111-4 |
| Police Public Complaints Authority..... | 967-4063 |
| Rape Crisis Centre Hotline..... | 929-2997 |
| Red Cross Society..... | 926-7246/7841 |
| Salvation Army..... | 929-6190-7 |
| Transport Authority..... | 926-1596 |
| Woman's Centre..... | 929-7608 |
| Woman's Crisis Centre..... | 929-2997 |

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