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Amend the bill in section 1 in subsection 3 in the last 2 lines (page 1, lines 8 and 9 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "Any expenditures from the account must be authorized by the Register of Deeds."

Further amend the bill by striking out all of section 2 and inserting in its place the following:

‘Sec. 2. 33 MRSA §752, sub-§6 is enacted to read:

6. Misappropriation of funds; penalty. Any county that uses funds from the records preservation surcharge account established in subsection 2 for any purpose that is not in accordance with the standards established in subsection 3 commits a civil violation for which a fine of \$100 per day from the date of the withdrawal to the date the money is restored to the account must be adjudged. Fines must be paid out of the county budget and be deposited in the account established in subsection 2.’

SUMMARY

This amendment removes the requirement that the Register of Deeds authorize any expenditures from the records preservation surcharge account. It also removes the retroactive application. This amendment provides that any county that uses funds for a purpose other than restoration, re-creation or preservation of deeds recorded in the office of the register of deeds has committed a civil violation that results in a fine of \$100 a day from the date the money was withdrawn to the date it is restored. Fines must be paid out of the county budget and placed in the records preservation surcharge account.