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## **An Act Concerning Copying Fees for Users of County Registries of Deeds**

**Emergency preamble.** Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

**Whereas,** county registries of deeds provide a valuable public service in recording and maintaining the land records of the State; and

**Whereas,** under current law, the fees specified for making abstracts and copies of records at registries of deeds will be repealed July 31, 2012; and

**Whereas,** in order to keep the fees in effect, this legislation must be enacted as an emergency measure; and

**Whereas,** in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

### **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

**Sec. 1. 33 MRSA §751, sub-§14-B,** as enacted by PL 2011, c. 378, §2, is amended to read:

**14-B. Abstracts and copies.** Making abstracts and copies of records at the office of the register of deeds as follows:

A. Five dollars per page for paper abstracts and copies of plans;

B. One dollar per page for other paper abstracts and copies; and

C. Fifty cents per page for digital abstracts and copies, except that the fee is 5¢ per page for copies of 1,000 or more digital abstracts and copies of consecutive records; and

~~This subsection is repealed July 31, 2012;~~

**Sec. 2. 33 MRSA §751, sub-§14-C,** as enacted by PL 2011, c. 378, §2, is repealed.

**Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation takes effect when approved.

## **SUMMARY**

Currently, the fees specified in statute for making abstracts and copies of records at county registries of deeds will be repealed July 31, 2012 and beginning August 1, 2012 county commissioners will set the fees. This bill eliminates the repeal and letting the county commissioners set the fees and continues the fees specified in statute.