



125th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2011

Legislative Document

No. 1550

H.P. 1137

House of Representatives, May 5, 2011

An Act To Change Document Filing Fees for County Registries of Deeds

(AFTER DEADLINE)

(EMERGENCY)

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 205.

Reference to the Committee on State and Local Government suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Heather J.R. Priest".

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST
Clerk

Presented by Representative MOULTON of York.
Cosponsored by Senator COLLINS of York and
Representatives: BOLAND of Sanford, GRAHAM of North Yarmouth, Senator: SULLIVAN
of York.

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

3 **Whereas**, filing fees for documents recorded at registries of deeds provide revenues
4 for maintaining vital land records of the State and for county administration; and

5 **Whereas**, other revenue sources counties use to maintain the information and to
6 make it accessible have proven unreliable owing to ongoing legal challenges; and

7 **Whereas**, the changes to the document filing fees made in this legislation need to be
8 made as soon as possible in order to ensure continued funding for maintaining vital land
9 records of the State and for county administration; and

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

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

15 **Sec. 1. 33 MRSA §751, sub-§1**, as amended by PL 2005, c. 246, §1, is further
16 amended to read:

17 **1. Instruments generally.** Receiving, recording and indexing any instrument that
18 may be recorded and for which a specific fee is not set forth in this section or in any other
19 section, the sum of ~~\$13~~ \$25 for the first record page and \$2 for each additional record
20 page or portion of an additional record page. In addition, if more than 4 names are to be
21 indexed, a fee of \$1 must be paid for each additional name, counting all grantors and
22 grantees;

23 **Sec. 2. 33 MRSA §751, sub-§9**, as amended by PL 2005, c. 246, §2, is further
24 amended to read:

25 **9. Plans.** Recording, indexing and preserving plans, the sum of ~~\$15~~ \$27;

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

28 **SUMMARY**

29 This bill increases the fee for recording an instrument, including plans, at all
30 registries of deeds by \$12.