

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-FIVE

H.P. 580 - L.D. 915

An Act to Modernize Deed Duplication from Microfilm to a Digital Image

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

Sec. 1. 33 MRSA §651, 3rd ¶, as repealed and replaced by PL 2003, c. 55, §1, is amended to read:

The register shall prepare, or have prepared, a ~~microfilm~~ record of each page of every instrument, plan or other document recorded in the registry office. The ~~microfilm~~ record made must be stored in a fireproof area and a digital image stored on magnetic or optical media. When original record books or plans are considered by the register to be in a condition that warrants withdrawal from regular use, the register may make a true copy of the contents of the record or may provide suitable means for reading the ~~microfilm, microfiche or~~ digital image stored on magnetic or optical media of the instruments withdrawn. The records and certified copies made either from the true copy or from images stored as provided in this section must be received in all courts of law with the same legal effect as those contained in the original.

Sec. 2. 33 MRSA §652, 3rd ¶, as amended by PL 2019, c. 439, §1, is further amended to read:

Paper plans submitted for recording must be rolled and not folded. The register may return plans that are not legible for recording and archival purposes and the processing of which may damage county equipment or resources. The register shall permanently file the original, create a digital image of the plan at a minimum of 300 dots per inch or 300 pixels per inch and maintain a copy for public inspection in paper or digital image form. Each plan must be ~~microfilmed~~ maintained as a digital image stored on magnetic or optical media for archival purposes. Each register shall maintain an index of all plans on record in the register's office.