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The issue of DEED FRAUD has come to the forefront in the State of Maine as a result of a series of recent criminal acts involving primarily out of state persons seeking to take control of title to real estate in Maine using fraudulent documents, false identities, fictitious notaries and a host of other schemes designed to deprive lawful owners of title to their real estate. Among the most vulnerable to these ploys are senior citizens and persons, families and entities who have owned vacant land or unoccupied properties for significant periods of time and persons who may be incapable of understanding the nature of these illegal acts. This proposed legislation seeks to provide education, remedies and resources to address this problem and to assist victims who may fall prey to these schemes.