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LD 353: Resolve, To Establish The Commission To Recommend Methods For Preventing Deed Fraud In The State

Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and members of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary,

My name is Nancy Hammond, and I am the Register of Deeds for York County, submitting testimony on behalf of the Maine Registers of Deeds Association (MRODA) in favor of LD 353, Resolve, To Establish The Commission To Recommend Methods For Preventing Deed Fraud In The State

The Registers of Deeds continue to receive calls from people regarding the attempted fraudulent sale of their real estate. These property owners are getting calls from individuals in the real estate business (brokers, title attorneys, potential buyers) inquiring if they are really listing their property for sale. The callers are looking for advice, "How do I protect my property?" The Deeds office is dealing with owners frustrated by what appears to be a lack of action on behalf of our offices and the State to assist them in this issue. As elected officials it is difficult to have nothing to offer these property owners. MRODA is looking for guidance and support in assisting the citizens in their battle to protect one of their most valuable assets.

For these reasons, we urge the Committee to vote Ought to Pass on LD 353. The Registers would be pleased to have a seat on the commission.