Mark Bennett New England Land Title Association LD 353

Chairs Carney and Kuhn and Members of the Judiciary Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to present written testimony on LD353 regarding a commission to study the prevention of deed fraud.

The New England Title Association (NELTA) is a trade association representing licensed title insurance agents, underwriters, abstractors and real estate / title attorneys operating in the six-state region of New Hampshire, Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Vermont. Our members conduct examinations of recorded documents and insure title to real property.

Deed fraud, in Maine and across the country, continues to be a challenge plaguing real estate transactions and creating problems for property owners.

NELTA supports protecting consumers, seeking solutions to preventing deed fraud and supports the passage of LD353.

Sincerely, Mark Bennett Executive Director New England Land Title Association