

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 157

DATE: April 8, 1997

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## STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Reported by: Minority

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### STATE OF MAINE SENATE 118TH LEGISLATURE FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "B " to S.P. 47, L.D. 157, Bill, "An Act to Impose a Surcharge on Documents Recorded in a Registry of Deeds to Fund Preservation of Registry Documents"

Amend the bill in section 1 in that part designated "\$752." by striking out all of subsection 1 and inserting in its place the following:

'1. Surcharge. In addition to any other fees required by law, a register of deeds may collect a surcharge of \$3 per document for all records that are recorded in the registry of deeds, except those recorded by municipalities.'

Further amend the bill in section 1 in that part designated "\$752." by inserting after subsection 3 the following:

'4. Repeal. This section is repealed January 1, 2002.'

Further amend the bill inserting after section 1 the following:

'Sec. 2. Appropriation. The following funds are appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.

1997-98	1998-99
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ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL  
SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF

Bureau of Taxation

2 All Other \$26,400 \$52,800

4 Provides funds for increased  
costs of filing liens and  
6 other documents with a  
registry of deeds.'

8 Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the  
summary the following:

12 **FISCAL NOTE**

14 1997-98 1998-99

16 **APPROPRIATIONS/ALLOCATIONS**

18 General Fund \$26,400 \$52,800

20 **REVENUES**

22 General Fund \$3,900 \$7,800

24 This bill will increase costs of filing liens and other  
documents with a registry of deeds. These increases in costs  
26 will affect State Government and county government. While most  
state departments and agencies will be able to absorb these  
28 additional costs, the Bureau of Taxation within the Department of  
Administrative and Financial Services, given the extensive number  
30 of filings of registry documents by the bureau, will require  
additional General Fund appropriations of \$26,400 in fiscal year  
32 1997-98 and \$52,800 annually beginning in fiscal year 1998-99.

34 General Fund revenue will increase as the additional costs  
related to this surcharge are recovered through tax enforcement  
36 methods. The estimated increases are \$3,900 in fiscal year  
1997-98, \$7,800 in fiscal year 1998-99, \$30,300 in fiscal year  
38 1999-00 and \$52,800 annually beginning in fiscal year 2000-01.'

40 **SUMMARY**

42 The bill establishes a surcharge for documents recorded in a  
44 registry of deeds to be used to fund the restoration, re-creation  
and preservation of records in the offices of registers of  
46 deeds. This minority amendment makes imposition of the surcharge  
optional with the county, exempts documents filed by  
48 municipalities from the surcharge if it is imposed, repeals any  
surcharge imposed by the bill on January 1, 2002 and adds an  
50 appropriation section and a fiscal note to the bill.