



STATE LAW LIDRARY AUGUSTA, MAINE

## **118th MAINE LEGISLATURE**

## **FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1997**

Legislative Document

No. 1120

S.P. 343

In Senate, February 20, 1997

An Act to Allow the Recording of Registry Records on Optical Disks.

Reference to the Committee on State and Local Government suggested and ordered printed.

JOY J. O'BRIEN Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator GOLDTHWAIT of Hancock. Cosponsored by Representative MAYO of Bath and Senators: DAGGETT of Kennebec, LIBBY of York, NUTTING of Androscoggin, Representative: LEMKE of Westbrook.

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

Sec. 1. 33 MRSA §651, as amended by PL 1965, c. 215, is further amended to read:

6 §651. Records; index

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The records in each registry office shall must be made on a 8 paper of firm texture, well sized and finished, the principal ingredient of which is linen. The registers shall make an 10 alphabetical index to the records without charge to the county, in the form known as ledger index, so that the same surnames 12 shall-be are recorded together in each column of index, or in lieu of such the book shall make a suitable card index. All 14 indexes made under this section shall must show in addition to 16 the names of the parties and the nature of the instrument, the date of the instrument, the date of its record and the name of the city, town or unincorporated place where the land conveyed is 18 situated. As often as every 10 years, the register shall revise and consolidate such the index in such a manner that all deeds 20 recorded since the last revision of the index shall-be-se are indexed so that the same surnames shall appear together and all 22 in alphabetical order. Such The revised and names are consolidated index shall must contain all data as to each and 24 every such deed or other instrument as that is above-set-forth referred to in this paragraph. Whenever-for-any-cause When it may 26 become becomes necessary to revise, renew or replace any index, the new volume shall must be made in conformity with this 28 section.

The-registers-shall-prepare,-or-have-prepared,-a-mierofilm 22 record-of-cach-page-of-every-instrument,-plan-or-other-document recorded-in-cach-registry-office-The-microfilm-record-so-made 34 shall-be-stored-in-a-fireproof-area,-Where-original-record-books or-plans-are-considered-by-the-register-to-be-in-such-condition 36 to-warrant-withdrawal-from-regular-use-he-may-provide-suitable means-for-reading-microfilm-records--of--the--instruments--so 38 withdrawn.

The registers shall prepare a photograph, microfilm or optical disk copy of each page of every instrument, plan or other document recorded in each registry office. The microfilm or optical disk records must be kept in a fireproof area. When original record books or plans are in excess of 50 years old or are in poor condition, the register may withdraw those documents from regular use and instead provide access to microfilm or optical disk copies of the documents.

## SUMMARY

This bill allows the recording of deeds on microfilm or 54 optical disk.

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