

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

2 **Sec. 1. 33 MRSA §671** is enacted to read:

3 **§671. Commercial resale**

4 **1. Prohibition on resale.** A person may not resell digital abstracts and copies of
5 deeds.

6 **2. Written statement.** A person requesting 1,000 or more digital abstracts and
7 copies of consecutive deeds records shall provide to the register of deeds a signed written
8 statement asserting that the records will not be sold or offered for sale.

9 **3. Violations.** A violation of subsection 1 is a civil violation for which a fine of not
10 more than \$1,000 may be adjudged. The execution of a statement under subsection 2
11 containing a false statement constitutes unsworn falsification under Title 17-A, section
12 453.

13 **4. Application.** This section does not apply to commercial activity for which the
14 exchange of copies of abstracts and deeds records is incidental to the commercial activity.

15 **SUMMARY**

16 This bill prohibits the resale of digital abstracts and copies of deeds. A person
17 requesting 1,000 or more consecutive deeds records must file a signed written statement
18 with the register of deeds that the records are not being requested with the intent to resell.
19 A person who resells deeds commits a civil violation for which a fine of not more than
20 \$1,000 may be adjudged. A person who executes a statement containing a false statement
21 commits unsworn falsification under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 17-A, section 453.
22 This prohibition does not apply to commercial activity for which the exchange of copies
23 of abstracts and deeds records is incidental to the activity, such as a real estate closing.