

HOUSE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
SENATE BILL NO. 737

A bill to amend 1937 PA 103, entitled

"An act to prescribe certain conditions relative to the execution of instruments entitled to be recorded in the office of the register of deeds,"

by amending section 1 (MCL 565.201), as amended by 2014 PA 347; and to repeal acts and parts of acts.

**THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:**

1       Sec. 1. (1) ~~An~~ **A REGISTER OF DEEDS SHALL NOT RECEIVE FOR**  
2 **RECORDING AN** instrument executed after October 29, 1937 ~~by which~~  
3 ~~the title to or any interest in real estate is conveyed, assigned,~~  
4 ~~encumbered, or otherwise disposed of shall not be received for~~  
5 ~~record by the register of deeds of any county of this state unless~~  
6 ~~that~~ **THE** instrument complies with each of the following  
7 requirements:

8       (a) The name of each person purporting to execute the

1 instrument is legibly printed, typewritten, or stamped beneath the  
2 original signature or mark of the person, **AND THE SIGNATURE OR MARK**  
3 **IS IN BLACK OR DARK BLUE INK.**

4 (b) A discrepancy does not exist between the name of each  
5 person as printed, typewritten, or stamped beneath ~~their~~**HIS OR HER**  
6 signature and the name as recited in the acknowledgment or jurat on  
7 the instrument.

8 (c) The name of any notary public whose signature appears ~~upon~~  
9 **ON** the instrument is legibly printed, typewritten, or stamped ~~upon~~  
10 **ON** the instrument ~~immediately beneath~~**AND APPEARS ON THE SAME PAGE**  
11 **NEAR** the signature of ~~that~~**THE** notary public.

12 (d) The address of each of the grantees in each deed of  
13 conveyance or assignment of real estate, including the street  
14 number address if located within territory where street number  
15 addresses are in common use, or, if not, the post office address,  
16 is legibly printed, typewritten, or stamped on the instrument.

17 (e) If the instrument is executed before April 1, 1997, each  
18 sheet of the instrument is all of the following:

19 (i) Typewritten or printed in type not smaller than 8-point  
20 size.

21 (ii) Not more than 8-1/2 by 14 inches.

22 (iii) Legible.

23 (iv) On paper of not less than 13 (17x22-500) pound weight.

24 (f) If the instrument is executed after April 1, 1997, each  
25 sheet of the instrument complies with all of the following  
26 requirements:

27 (i) Has a margin of unprinted space that is at least 2-1/2

1 inches at the top of the first page and at least 1/2 inch on all  
2 remaining sides of each page.

3 (ii) Subject to subsection (3), displays on the first line of  
4 print on the first page of the instrument a single statement  
5 identifying the recordable event that the instrument evidences.

6 (iii) Is electronically, mechanically, or hand printed in 10-  
7 point type or the equivalent of 10-point type.

8 (iv) Is legibly printed in black ink on white paper that is  
9 not less than 20-pound weight.

10 (v) Is not less than 8-1/2 inches wide and 11 inches long or  
11 more than 8-1/2 inches wide and 14 inches long.

12 (vi) Contains no attachment that is less than 8-1/2 inches  
13 wide and 11 inches long or more than 8-1/2 inches wide and 14  
14 inches long.

15 (g) Unless state or federal law, rule, regulation, or court  
16 order or rule requires that all or more than 4 sequential digits of  
17 the social security number appear in the instrument, beginning on 1  
18 of the following dates the first 5 digits of any social security  
19 number appearing in or on the instrument are obscured or removed:

20 (i) Except as provided in subparagraph (ii), September 12,  
21 2007.

22 (ii) For an instrument presented to the register of deeds by  
23 the department of treasury, April 1, 2008.

24 **(H) IF THE INSTRUMENT OR ANY PART OF IT IS IN A LANGUAGE OTHER**  
25 **THAN ENGLISH, A WRITTEN ENGLISH TRANSLATION IS ATTACHED TO THE**  
26 **INSTRUMENT.**

27 **(I) IF THE INSTRUMENT IS EXECUTED AFTER JANUARY 1, 1964, THE**

1 INSTRUMENT CONTAINS THE NAME AND BUSINESS ADDRESS OF THE PERSON WHO  
2 DRAFTED THE INSTRUMENT.

3 (2) Subsection (1)(e) and (f) does not apply to instruments  
4 executed outside this state or to the filing or recording of a plat  
5 or other instrument, the size of which is regulated by law.

6 (3) A register of deeds shall not record an instrument  
7 executed after April 1, 1997, **OTHER THAN AN INSTRUMENT DESCRIBED IN**  
8 **SUBSECTION (2)**, if the statement required under subsection  
9 (1)(f)(ii) purports to evidence more than 1 recordable event.

10 (4) Any instrument received and recorded by a register of  
11 deeds, including any instrument considered duly recorded under  
12 subsection (6), is conclusively presumed to comply with this act.  
13 The requirements contained in this act are cumulative to the  
14 requirements imposed by any other act relating to the recording of  
15 instruments.

16 (5) ~~An~~ **A REGISTER OF DEEDS SHALL NOT REJECT AN** instrument ~~that~~  
17 **FOR RECORDING BECAUSE OF THE CONTENT OF THE INSTRUMENT IF THE**  
18 **INSTRUMENT** complies with the provisions of this act and any other  
19 act relating to the recording of instruments. ~~shall not be rejected~~  
20 ~~for recording because of the content of the instrument.~~

21 (6) If a mortgage meets all requirements for recording under  
22 this act and a copy of the mortgage is affixed to an affidavit that  
23 is recordable under section 1a(g) of 1915 PA 123, MCL 565.451a,  
24 ~~then the~~ **REGISTER OF DEEDS SHALL RECEIVE THE** affidavit with the  
25 accompanying copy of the mortgage ~~shall be received for record, by~~  
26 ~~the register of deeds,~~ and the mortgage is duly recorded under this  
27 act and under section 29 of 1846 RS 65, MCL 565.29, as of the date

1 of recording of the affidavit. To the extent that the mortgage  
2 validly creates a lien, the lien is perfected as of the date of  
3 recording of the affidavit. The ~~amendatory act that added this~~  
4 ~~subsection applies~~ **AMENDMENTS TO THIS SECTION ENACTED BY 2014 PA**  
5 **347 APPLY** retroactively to all copies of mortgages verified by  
6 affidavit regardless of whether they are recorded on, before, or  
7 after **OCTOBER 17, 2014**, the effective date of ~~that amendatory act.~~  
8 **2014 PA 347**. However, **A REGISTER OF DEEDS SHALL NOT RECEIVE** an  
9 affidavit and mortgage ~~shall not be received for record under this~~  
10 ~~subsection on or after the effective date of the amendatory act~~  
11 ~~that added this subsection~~ **OCTOBER 16, 2014** if more than 1 mortgage  
12 is attached to the affidavit.

13 Enacting section 1. Section 1a of 1937 PA 103, MCL 565.201a,  
14 is repealed.

15 Enacting section 2. This amendatory act takes effect 90 days  
16 after the date it is enacted into law.