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Re: House Bill No. 5662: Real Estate Title Fraud

Dear Chairman Craven and Honorable Judiciary Committee Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony in **support** of House Bill No. 5662, which would establish the criminal offense for real estate title fraud and place certain stipulations on the filing of such documents

The steady rise in real estate title fraud has caused concern and loss for many homeowners who discover that their property has been sold or is in the process of being sold, without their consent or knowledge. These real estate transactions often take place electronically and House Bill No. 5662 would require sufficient documentation be supplied to municipalities for the remote filing of Rhode Island properties.

House Bill No. 5662, also, establishes real estate title fraud as a criminal offense and allows owners who become victims to bring criminal and/or private action against any individual who knowingly falsifies such records.

I am asking you today to vote in favor of House Bill No. 5662. This bill just makes sense. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Marianne Kelly