A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO MORTGAGES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as the "Mortgage Rescue

- 2 Fraud Prevention Act."
- 3 SECTION 2. The Hawaii Revised Statutes is amended by
- 4 adding a new chapter to title 26 to be appropriately designated
- 5 and to read as follows:

7

6 "CHAPTER

MORTGAGE RESCUE FRAUD PREVENTION ACT

- 8 § -1 Purpose. The purpose of this chapter is to protect
- 9 Hawaii consumers from persons who prey on homeowners who face
- 10 property foreclosures, liens, or encumbrances. Consumers who
- 11 face foreclosures, liens, or encumbrances are often in desperate
- 12 financial situations that can have severe adverse consequences
- 13 for individuals and families even if the consumers have
- 14 significant equity in their residential real property. The
- 15 consumers' desperation makes them vulnerable to persons who
- 16 claim they can stop, prevent, or delay foreclosures, liens, or
- 17 encumbrances. Persons who make these claims often use the
- 18 consumers' desperation to foster unequal bargaining positions 2008-1878 HB2326 SD1 SMA.doc



- 1 and withhold or misrepresent vital information and details. As
- 2 a result, consumers may be convinced to give up their real
- 3 property interests and valuable equity to these persons while
- 4 receiving little in return. Requiring full and complete
- 5 disclosure of vital information will better enable consumers to
- 6 make informed decisions when dealing with persons claiming to be
- 7 able to stop foreclosures, liens, or encumbrances. This Act
- 8 addresses possible misrepresentations by compelling persons who
- 9 offer assistance to fully and completely describe their services
- 10 in written contracts and gives the homeowners the right to
- 11 cancel at any time before a distressed property consultant has
- 12 performed all services called for in a contract.
- 13 § -2 Definitions. As used in this chapter, unless the
- 14 context otherwise requires:
- "Consideration" means any payment or thing of value
- 16 provided to an owner of a distressed property, including
- 17 reasonable costs paid to independent third parties necessary to
- 18 complete the distressed property conveyance or payment of money
- 19 to satisfy a debt or legal obligation of an owner of the
- 20 distressed property. "Consideration" shall not include any
- 21 amounts paid or to be paid directly or indirectly to the

1 distressed property purchaser, including amounts identified as "gift equity," "fees," "escrow," or "down payment". 2 3 "Distressed property" means any residential real property 4 that: Is in foreclosure or at risk of foreclosure because 5 (1) 6 payment of any loan that is secured by the residential 7 real property is more than sixty days delinquent; (2) Had a lien or encumbrance charged against it because 8 9 of nonpayment of any taxes, lease assessments, association fees, or maintenance fees; 10 11 Is at risk of having a lien or encumbrance charged (3) against it because the payments of any taxes, lease 12 13 assessments, association fees, or maintenance fees are 14 more than ninety days delinquent; Secures a loan for which a notice of default has been 15 (4)16 given; or Secures a loan that has been accelerated. 17 (5) 18 "Distressed property consultant" means any person who performs or makes any solicitation, representation, or offer to 19

perform any of the following relating to a distressed property:

	(1)	beop of posepone the forecrosure safe of foss of any
2		distressed property due to the nonpayment of any loan
3		that is secured by the distressed property;
4	(2)	Stop or postpone the charging of any lien or
5		encumbrance against any distressed property or
6		eliminate any lien or encumbrance charged against any
7		distressed property for the nonpayment of any taxes,
8		lease assessments, association fees, or maintenance
9		fees;
10	(3)	Obtain any forbearance from any beneficiary or
11		mortgagee, or relief with respect to a tax sale of the
12		property;
13	(4)	Assist the owner to exercise any cure of default
14		arising under Hawaii law;
15	(5)	Obtain any extension of the period within which the
16		owner may reinstate the owner's rights with respect to
17		the property;
18	(6)	Obtain any waiver of an acceleration clause contained
19		in any promissory note or contract secured by a
20		mortgage on a distressed property or contained in the
21		mortgage;

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2		post-tax sale redemption period to obtain a loan or
3		advance of funds;
4	(8)	Avoid or ameliorate the impairment of the owner's
5		credit resulting from the recording or filing of a
6		notice of default or the conduct of a foreclosure sale
7		or tax sale; or
8	(9)	Save the owner's residence from foreclosure or loss of
9		home due to nonpayment of taxes.
10	"Dis	tressed property consultant" shall not include any of
11	the follo	wing:
12	(1)	A person or the person's authorized agent acting under
13		the express authority or written approval of the
14		federal Department of Housing and Urban Development;
15	(2)	A person who holds or is owed an obligation secured by
16		a lien on any distressed property, or a person acting
17		under the express authorization or written approval of
18		such person, when the person performs services in
19		connection with the obligation or lien, if the
20		obligation or lien did not arise as the result of or
21		as part of a proposed distressed property conveyance;

.2.	(3)	banks, savings banks, savings and toan associacions,
2		credit unions, trust companies, depository and
3		nondepository financial service loan companies, and
4		insurance companies organized, chartered, or holding a
5		certificate of authority to do business under the laws
6		of this State or any other state, or under the laws of
7		the United States;
8	(4)	Licensed attorneys engaged in the practice of law;
9	(5)	A federal Department of Housing and Urban Development
10		approved mortgagee and any subsidiary or affiliate of
11		these persons or entities, and any agent or employee
12		of these persons or entities, while engaged in the
13		business of these persons or entities; or
14	(6)	A nonprofit organization that, pursuant to chapter
15		446, offers counseling or advice to an owner of a
16		distressed property, if the nonprofit organization has
17		no contract or agreement for services with lenders,
18		distressed property purchasers, or any person who
19		effects loans or distressed property purchases.
20	"Dist	ressed property consultant contract" means any
21	agreement	or obligation between an owner or agent of an owner of

a distressed property and a distressed property consultant.

- "Distressed property conveyance" means the transfer of any 1 2 interest in a distressed property effected directly or indirectly by or through a distressed property consultant. 3 "Distressed property conveyance contract" means any 4 agreement or obligation affecting a distressed property 5 6 conveyance. "Distressed property lease" means any agreement or 7 obligation regarding the lease or rental of a distressed 8 9 property effected directly or indirectly by or through a 10 distressed property consultant or distressed property purchaser. "Distressed property purchaser" means any person who 11 acquires any interest in a distressed property directly or 12 indirectly through a distressed property conveyance or 13 14 distressed property conveyance contract. "Material fact" means a fact that, if disclosed, might have 15 influenced the distressed property owner to not enter into the 16 17 agreement or obligation. "Person" means any individual, partnership, corporation, 18 19 limited liability company, association, or other group or 20 entity, however organized. 21 -3 Distressed property consultant contract. (a) A
- distressed property consultant contract shall be in writing and 2008-1878 HB2326 SD1 SMA.doc

- 1 shall fully disclose all services to be performed by the
- 2 distressed property consultant and all terms of any agreements
- 3 between the distressed property consultant and all owners of the
- 4 distressed property, including the total amount and terms of
- 5 compensation to be directly or indirectly received by the
- 6 distressed property consultant.
- 7 (b) A distressed property consultant contract shall
- 8 contain on its first page in a type size no smaller than
- 9 fourteen-point boldface type:
- 10 (1) A description of the distressed property;
- 11 (2) The name, street address, and telephone number of the
- distressed property consultant; and
- 13 (3) The name and address of the distressed property
- 14 consultant to which notice of cancellation is to be
- delivered.
- 16 (c) A distressed property consultant contract shall be
- 17 dated and signed by the distressed property consultant. If the
- 18 distressed property consultant is a person other than an
- 19 individual, the individual executing the distressed property
- 20 consultant contract on behalf of the distressed property
- 21 consultant shall identify the title and office held by the
- 22 individual.

Ţ	(d) A discressed property constituant contract sharr be
2	dated and signed by all owners of the distressed property.
3	(e) The distressed property consultant shall provide each
4	distressed property owner with a copy of the distressed property
5	consultant contract and attached notice of cancellation
6	immediately upon execution by all parties to the distressed
7	property consultant contract. A distressed property consultant
8	contract shall not be effective until all parties to the
9	distressed property consultant contract have signed the
10	contract.
11	§ -4 Right to cancel a distressed property consultant
12	contract. (a) A distressed property consultant contract shall
13	contain, immediately before the space reserved for all the
14	distressed property owners' signatures, the following notice of
15	right to cancel a distressed property consultant contract in a
16	type size no smaller than fourteen-point boldface type,
17	completed with the name of the distressed property consultant:
18	"YOU, THE OWNER, MAY CANCEL THIS TRANSACTION AT ANY TIME
19	BEFORE THE DISTRESSED PROPERTY CONSULTANT HAS FULLY
20	PERFORMED EACH AND EVERY SERVICE THE DISTRESSED PROPERTY
21	CONSULTANT CONTRACTED TO PERFORM OR REPRESENTED WOULD BE

1	PERF	ORMED. SEE THE ATTACHED NOTICE OF CANCELLATION FORM
2	FOR	AN EXPLANATION OF THIS RIGHT.
3		(Name of the distressed property consultant) (or
4		anyone working for or with the distressed property
5		consultant) CANNOT:
6	(1)	Take any money from you or ask you for money until
7		(Name of the distressed property consultant) has
8		completely finished doing everything (Name of the
9		distressed property consultant) said he or she would
10		do; or
11	(2)	Ask you to sign or have you sign any lien,
12		encumbrance, mortgage, assignment, or deed unless the
13		lien, encumbrance, mortgage, assignment, or deed is
14		fully described including all disclosures required by
15		law."
16	(b)	A distressed property consultant contract shall be
17	accompanio	ed by the following notice of cancellation form, in
18	duplicate	, attached to the contract and easily detachable, in a
19	type size	no smaller than fourteen-point boldface type,
20	completed	with the date the contract was last signed, the name
21	of the dis	stressed property consultant, and the address where the
22	notice of	cancellation is to be delivered:

1	"NOTICE OF CANCELLATION
2	(Enter date contract last signed)
3	(Date)
4	YOU MAY CANCEL THIS TRANSACTION, WITHOUT ANY PENALTY OR
5	OBLIGATION, AT ANY TIME BEFORE THE DISTRESSED PROPERTY
6	CONSULTANT HAS FULLY PERFORMED EACH AND EVERY SERVICE THE
7	DISTRESSED PROPERTY CONSULTANT CONTRACTED TO PERFORM OR
8	REPRESENTED WOULD BE PERFORMED.
9	
10	TO CANCEL THIS TRANSACTION, MAIL OR DELIVER A SIGNED AND
11	DATED COPY OF THIS NOTICE OF CANCELLATION, OR ANY OTHER
12	WRITTEN NOTICE OF CANCELLATION TO (Name of distressed
13	property consultant) AT (Address where notice of
14	cancellation is to be delivered).
15	
16	I HEREBY CANCEL THIS TRANSACTION.
17	
18	(Date)
19	
20	
21	(Owner's signature)"

- 1 § -5 Cancellation of a distressed property consultant
- 2 contract. (a) In addition to any other legal right to rescind
- 3 a contract, any distressed property owner has the right to
- 4 cancel a distressed property consultant contract, without any
- 5 penalty or obligation, at any time before the distressed
- 6 property consultant has fully performed each and every service
- 7 the distressed property consultant contracted to perform or
- 8 represented would be performed.
- 9 (b) Cancellation occurs when any owner of a distressed
- 10 property delivers, by any means, written notice of cancellation
- 11 to the address specified in the distressed property consultant
- 12 contract.
- 13 (c) Notice of cancellation, if given by mail, is effective
- 14 when deposited in the mail with postage prepaid. Notice by
- 15 certified mail, return receipt requested, addressed to the
- 16 address specified in the distressed property consultant
- 17 contract, shall be conclusive proof of notice of cancellation.
- 18 (d) Notice of cancellation given by any owner of a
- 19 distressed property need not take the particular form as
- 20 provided with the distressed property consultant contract and,
- 21 however expressed, is effective if it indicates the intention of
- 22 an owner not to be bound by the contract.

1	\$	-6 Distressed property conveyance contract. (a) A
2	distresse	d property conveyance contract shall be in writing and
3	shall ful	ly disclose all rights and obligations of the
4	distresse	d property purchaser and all owners of the distressed
5	property	and all terms of any agreements between the distressed
6	property	purchaser and all owners of the distressed property.
7	(b)	Every distressed property conveyance contract shall
8	specifica	lly include the following terms:
9	(1)	The total consideration to be given by the distressed
10		property purchaser or tax lien payor in connection
11		with or incident to the distressed property
12		conveyance;
13	(2)	A complete description of the terms of payment or
14		other consideration including any services of any
15		nature that the distressed property purchaser
16		represents will be performed for any owner of the
17		distressed property before or after the distressed
18		property conveyance;
19	(3)	A complete description of the terms of any related
20		agreement designed to allow any owner of the
21		distressed property to remain in the distressed
22		property, such as a rental agreement, repurchase

1		agreement, contract for deed, or lease with option to
2		buy;
3	(4)	All notices as provided in this chapter;
4	(5)	The following notice, in a type size no smaller than
5		fourteen-point boldface type, completed with the name
6		of the distressed property purchaser, shall appear
7		immediately above the notice of right to cancel a
8		distressed property conveyance contract required by
9		section -7(a):
10		"NOTICE REQUIRED BY HAWAII LAW
11		UNTIL YOUR RIGHT TO CANCEL THIS CONTRACT HAS
12		ENDED, (Name of distressed property purchaser) OR
13		ANYONE WORKING FOR (Name of distressed property
14		purchaser) CANNOT ASK YOU TO SIGN OR HAVE YOU
15		SIGN ANY DEED OR ANY OTHER DOCUMENT. YOU ARE
16		URGED TO HAVE THIS CONTRACT REVIEWED BY AN
17		ATTORNEY OF YOUR CHOICE WITHIN FIFTEEN BUSINESS
18		DAYS OF SIGNING IT.";
19		and
20	(6)	If title to the distressed property will be
21		transferred in the conveyance transaction, the
22		following notice, in a type size no smaller than

1	fourteen-point boldface type, completed with the name
2	of the distressed property purchaser, shall appear
3	immediately below the notice required by paragraph
4	(5):
5	"NOTICE REQUIRED BY HAWAII LAW
6	AS PART OF THIS TRANSACTION, YOU ARE GIVING UP
7	TITLE TO YOUR HOME."
8	(c) A distressed property conveyance contract shall
9	contain on its first page in a type size no smaller than
10	fourteen-point boldface type:
11	(1) A description of the distressed property;
12	(2) The name, street address, and telephone number of the
13	distressed property purchaser; and
14	(3) The name and address of the distressed property
15	purchaser to which notice of cancellation is to be
16	delivered.
17	(d) A distressed property conveyance contract shall be
18	dated and signed by the distressed property purchaser. If the
19	distressed property purchaser is a person other than an
20	individual, the individual executing the distressed property
21	conveyance contract on behalf of the distressed property

- 1 purchaser shall identify the title and office held by the
- 2 individual.
- 3 (e) A distressed property conveyance contract shall be
- 4 dated and signed by all owners of the distressed property.
- 5 (f) The distressed property purchaser shall provide each
- 6 distressed property owner with a copy of the distressed property
- 7 conveyance contract and attached notice of cancellation form
- 8 immediately upon execution by all parties to the distressed
- 9 property conveyance contract. A distressed property conveyance
- 10 contract shall not be effective until all parties to the
- 11 distressed property conveyance contract have signed the
- 12 contract.
- 13 (q) Pursuant to chapter 501 or 502, the distressed
- 14 property purchaser shall record the distressed property
- 15 conveyance contract no earlier than fifteen days after its
- 16 execution but no later than twenty days after its execution;
- 17 provided that the contract has not been canceled, or no later
- 18 than fifteen days after the last day any distressed property
- 19 owner has the right to cure a default under state law, whichever
- 20 is later.
- 21 § -7 Right to cancel a distressed property conveyance
- 22 contract. (a) A distressed property conveyance contract shall

1	contain, immediately before the space reserved for all the
2	distressed property owners' signatures, the following notice of
3	right to cancel a distressed property conveyance contract in a
4	type size no smaller than fourteen-point boldface type,
5	completed with the correct date and time of day on which the
6	cancellation right ends:
7	"YOU MAY CANCEL THIS CONTRACT FOR THE SALE OF YOUR
8	HOUSE, WITHOUT ANY PENALTY OR OBLIGATION, AT ANY TIME
9	BEFORE (Date and time of day). SEE THE ATTACHED
10	NOTICE OF CANCELLATION FORM FOR AN EXPLANATION OF THIS
11	RIGHT."
12	(b) A distressed property conveyance contract shall be
13	accompanied by the following notice of cancellation form, in
14	duplicate, attached to the contract and easily detachable, in a
15	type size no smaller than fourteen-point boldface type,
16	completed with the date the contract was last signed, the name
17	of the distressed property purchaser, the address where notice
18	of cancellation is to be delivered, and the correct date and
19	time of day on which the cancellation right ends:
20	"NOTICE OF CANCELLATION
21	

(Enter date contract last signed)

1	(Date)
2	YOU MAY CANCEL THIS CONTRACT FOR THE SALE OF YOUR HOME,
3	WITHOUT ANY PENALTY OR OBLIGATION, AT ANY TIME BEFORE THE
4	LATER OF MIDNIGHT OF THE FIFTEENTH BUSINESS DAY FOLLOWING
5	THE DAY ON WHICH THE LAST PARTY TO A DISTRESSED PROPERTY
6	CONVEYANCE CONTRACT SIGNS THE DISTRESSED PROPERTY
7	CONVEYANCE CONTRACT OR 5:00 P.M. ON THE LAST DAY OF THE
8	PERIOD DURING WHICH ANY OWNER OF A DISTRESSED PROPERTY HAS
9	THE RIGHT TO CURE THE DEFAULT UNDER HAWAII LAW.
10	
11	TO CANCEL THIS TRANSACTION, MAIL OR DELIVER A SIGNED AND
12	DATED COPY OF THIS NOTICE OF CANCELLATION, OR ANY OTHER
13	WRITTEN NOTICE OF CANCELLATION, TO (Name of distressed
14	property purchaser) AT (Address where notice of
15	cancellation is to be delivered) NOT LATER THAN (Enter date
16	and time of day).
17	
18	I HEREBY CANCEL THIS TRANSACTION.
19	
20	
21	(DATE)

1 (Seller's signature)" 2 S Cancellation of a distressed property conveyance 3 contract. (a) In addition to any other legal right to rescind 4 a contract, any distressed property owner has the right to 5 cancel a distressed property conveyance contract, without any 6 penalty or obligation, at any time before the later of midnight 7 of the fifteenth business day following the day on which the 8 last party to a distressed property conveyance contract signs 9 the distressed property conveyance contract or 5:00 p.m. on the last day of the period during which any owner of a distressed 10 property has the right to cure a default under state law. 11 12 The period of fifteen business days following the day (b) on which the last party to a distressed property conveyance 13 contract signs the contract during which any owner of the 14 distressed property may cancel the contract shall not begin to 15 16 run until all parties to the distressed property conveyance contract have executed the distressed property conveyance 17 18 contract and the distressed property purchaser has complied with all the requirements of sections -7, and this section. 19 -6, 20 (c) Cancellation occurs when any owner of a distressed property delivers, by any means, and within the time specified 21 under subsection (a), written notice of cancellation to the 22 2008-1878 HB2326 SD1 SMA.doc

- 1 address specified in the distressed property conveyance
- 2 contract.
- 3 (d) Notice of cancellation, if given by mail, is effective
- 4 when deposited in the mail with postage prepaid. Notice by
- 5 certified mail, return receipt requested, addressed to the
- 6 address specified in the distressed property conveyance
- 7 contract, shall be conclusive proof of notice of cancellation.
- 8 (e) Notice of cancellation given by any owner of a
- 9 distressed property need not take the particular form as
- 10 provided with the distressed property conveyance contract and,
- 11 however expressed, is effective if it indicates the intention of
- 12 an owner not to be bound by the contract.
- (f) Within fifteen days following receipt of a notice of
- 14 cancellation given in accordance with this section, the
- 15 distressed property purchaser shall return, without condition,
- 16 any and all original contracts and documents signed by any owner
- 17 of the distressed property.
- 18 § -9 Distressed property lease. (a) A distressed
- 19 property lease shall be in writing and shall fully disclose:
- 20 (1) All rights and obligations of the distressed property
- 21 lessor and distressed property lessee;

1	(2)	The exact terms of the agreement between the
2		distressed property lessor and distressed property
3		lessee;
4	(3)	The exact period of time the distressed property lease
5		is to be in effect; and
6	(4)	The total amount and terms of compensation to be
7		directly or indirectly received by the distressed
8		property lessor.
9	(b)	Distressed property lessees shall be afforded all
10	rights un	der the landlord-tenant law of the State. No
11	distresse	d property lease shall provide a distressed property
12	lessee wi	th rights less than those provided by the State's
13	landlord-	tenant law as set forth in chapters 521 and 666.
14	(c)	The first page of a distressed property lease shall
15	contain i	n a type size no smaller than fourteen-point boldface
16	type:	
17	(1)	A description of the distressed property;
18	(2)	The name, street address, and telephone number of the
19		distressed property lessor; and
20	(3)	The name and address of the distressed property lesson
21		to which lease or rental payments, correspondence, and

notices are to be mailed.

- 1 (d) A distressed property lease shall be dated and signed
- 2 by the distressed property lessor. If the distressed property
- 3 lessor is a person other than an individual, the individual
- 4 executing the distressed property lease on behalf of the
- 5 distressed property lessor shall identify the title and office
- 6 held by the individual.
- 7 (e) A distressed property lease shall be dated and signed
- 8 by all lessees of the distressed property.
- 9 (f) The distressed property lessor shall provide each
- 10 distressed property lessee with a copy of the distressed
- 11 property lease immediately upon execution by all parties to the
- 12 distressed property lease. A distressed property lease shall
- 13 not be effective until all parties to the distressed property
- 14 lease have signed the lease.
- 15 § -10 Prohibitions. (a) A distressed property
- 16 consultant shall not:
- 17 (1) Misrepresent or conceal any material fact;
- 18 (2) Induce or attempt to induce a distressed property
- owner to waive any provision of this chapter;
- 20 (3) Make any promise or guarantee not fully disclosed in
- 21 the distressed property consultant contract;

1	(4)	Engage or attempt to engage in any activity or act
2		concerning the distressed property not fully disclosed
3		in the distressed property consultant contract;
4	(5)	Induce or attempt to induce a distressed property
5		owner to engage in any activity or act not fully
6		disclosed in the distressed property consultant
7		contract;
8	(6)	Take, ask for, claim, demand, charge, collect, or
9		receive any compensation until after the distressed
10		property consultant has fully performed each service
11		the distressed property consultant contracted to
12		perform or represented would be performed;
13	(7)	Take, ask for, claim, demand, charge, collect, or
14		receive for any reason, any fee, interest, or any
15		other compensation that exceeds the two most recent
16		monthly mortgage installments of principal and
17		interest due on the loan first secured by the
18		distressed property or the most recent annual real
19		property tax charged against the distressed property,
20		whichever is less;
21	(8)	Take or ask for a wage assignment, a lien of any type

on real or personal property, or other security to

1		secure the payment of compensation. This type of
2		security is void and not enforceable;
3	(9)	Receive any consideration from any third party in
4		connection with services rendered to a distressed
5		property owner unless the consideration is fully
6		disclosed in the distressed property consultant
7		contract;
8	(10)	Acquire any interest, directly or indirectly, or by
9		means of a subsidiary or affiliate, in a distressed
10		property from a distressed property owner with whom
11		the distressed property consultant has contracted;
12	(11)	Require or ask a distressed property owner to sign any
13		lien, encumbrance, mortgage, assignment, or deed
14		unless the lien, encumbrance, mortgage, assignment, or
15		deed is fully described in the distressed property
16		consultant contract, including all disclosures
17		required by this chapter; or
18	(12)	Take any power of attorney from a distressed property
19		owner for any purpose, except to inspect documents
20		concerning the distressed property as allowed by law.
21	(b)	A distressed property purchaser shall not:
22	(1)	Misrepresent or conceal any material fact;

	(2)	induce of accempt to induce a discressed property
2		owner to waive this chapter;
3	(3)	Make any promise or guarantee not fully disclosed in
4		the distressed property conveyance contact;
5	(4)	Engage or attempt to engage in any activity or act
6		concerning the distressed property not fully disclosed
7		in the distressed property conveyance contract;
8	(5)	Induce or attempt to induce a distressed property
9		owner to engage in any activity or act not fully
10		disclosed in the distressed property conveyance
11		contract;
12	(6)	Enter into or attempt to enter into a distressed
13		property conveyance unless the distressed property
14		purchaser verifies and can demonstrate that an owner
15		of the distressed property has a reasonable ability to
16		pay any amounts due to reacquire an interest in the
17		distressed property or to make monthly or any other
18		payments due under a distressed property conveyance
19		contract or distressed property lease, if the
20		distressed property purchaser allows any owner of a
21		distressed property to remain in, occupy, use, or
22		repurchase the distressed property;

1	(7)	Fail to make a payment to the owner of the distressed
2		property at the time the title is conveyed so that the
3		owner of the distressed property has received
4		consideration in an amount of at least eighty-two per
5		cent of the property's fair market value, or, in the
6		alternative, fail to pay the owner of the distressed
7		property no more than the costs necessary to
8		extinguish all of the existing obligations on the
9		distressed property, as set forth in this chapter;
10		provided that the owner's costs to repurchase the
11		distressed property pursuant to the terms of the
12		distressed property conveyance contract do not exceed
13		one hundred twenty-five per cent of the distressed
14		property purchaser's costs to purchase the property.
15		If an owner is unable to repurchase the property
16		pursuant to the terms of the distressed property
17		conveyance contract, the distressed property purchaser
18		shall not fail to make a payment to the owner of the
19		distressed property so that the owner of the
20		distressed property has received consideration in an
21		amount of at least eighty-two per cent of the
22		property's fair market value at the time of conveyance

		of at the expiration of the owner's option to
2		repurchase;
3	(8)	Enter into any repurchase or lease agreement as part
4		of a distressed property conveyance contract or
5		subsequent conveyance of an interest in the distressed
6		property back to a distressed property owner that is
7		unfair or commercially unreasonable or engage in any
8		other unfair conduct;
9	(9)	Represent, directly or indirectly, that the distressed
10		property purchaser is acting as an advisor or a
11		consultant or is acting on behalf of or assisting an
12		owner of a distressed property to "remain in the
13		house," "save the house," "buy time," or "stop the
14		foreclosure" or is doing anything other than
15		purchasing the distressed property;
16	(10)	Misrepresent the distressed property purchaser's
17		status as to licensure or certification;
18	(11)	Do any of the following until after the time during
19		which an owner of a distressed property may cancel the
20		distressed property conveyance contract:

1		(A)	Accept from an owner of the distressed property
2			execution of any instrument of conveyance of any
3			interest in the distressed property;
4		(B)	Execute an instrument of conveyance of any
5			interest in the distressed property; or
6		(C)	Pursuant to chapter 501 or 502, record any
7			document signed by an owner of a distressed
8			property, including any instrument of conveyance;
9	(12)	Fail	to re-convey title in a distressed property to
10		the •	distressed property owner or owners when the terms
11		of t	he distressed property conveyance contract have
12		been	fulfilled if the distressed property consultant
13		or d	istressed property purchaser contracted or
14		repr	esented that title in the distressed property
15		woul	d be re-conveyed to the distressed property owner
16		or o	wners when the terms of the distressed property
17		conv	eyance contract have been fulfilled;
18	(13)	Indu	ce or attempt to induce an owner of the distressed
19		prop	erty to execute a quitclaim deed concerning a
20		dist:	ressed property;

1	(14)	Enter into a distressed property conveyance contract		
2		where any party to the contract is represented by		
3		power of attorney;		
4	(15)	Immediately following the conveyance of the distressed		
5		property, fail to extinguish all liens encumbering the		
6		distressed property at the time of the distressed		
7		property conveyance or fail to assume all liability		
8		with respect to all liens encumbering the distressed		
9		property at the time of the distressed property		
10		conveyance, which assumption shall be accomplished		
11		without violations of the terms and conditions of the		
12		lien or liens being assumed. Nothing herein shall		
13		preclude a lender from enforcing any provision in a		
14		contract that is not otherwise prohibited by law;		
15	(16)	Fail to complete a distressed property conveyance		
16		through:		
17		(A) An escrow depository licensed by the department		
18		of commerce and consumer affairs;		
19		(B) A bank, trust company, or savings and loan		
20		association authorized under any law of this		
21		State or of the United States to do business in		
22		the State;		

1		(C)	A person licensed as a real estate broker in this
2			State who is the broker for a party to the
3			escrow; provided that the person does not charge
4			any escrow fee; or
5		(D)	A person licensed to practice law in this State
6			who, in escrow, is not acting as the employee of
7			a corporation; provided that the person does not
8			charge any escrow fee; or
9	(17)	Cause	e the property to be conveyed or encumbered
10		with	out the knowledge or permission of all owners of a
11		dist	ressed property or in any way frustrate the
12		abil	ity of a distressed property owner to reacquire
13		the o	distressed property.
14	(c)	There	e shall be a rebuttable presumption that an
15	appraisal	by a	person licensed or certified as a real property
16	appraiser	by tl	ne State or the federal government is an accurate
17	determinat	tion o	of the fair market value of the property.
18	(d)	An e	valuation of "reasonable ability to pay" under

this chapter shall include debt to income ratio, fair market

value of the distressed property, and the distressed property

owner's payment history.

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- 1 § -11 Violation, penalties. (a) Any person who
- 2 violates any provision of this chapter shall be deemed to have
- 3 engaged in an unfair or deceptive act or practice in the conduct
- 4 of any trade or commerce within the meaning of section 480-2.
- 5 (b) The penalties provided in this section shall be
- 6 cumulative to the remedies or penalties available under all
- 7 other laws of this State."
- 8 SECTION 3. This Act does not affect rights and duties that
- 9 matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were
- 10 begun, before its effective date.
- 11 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Report Title:

Real Property; Mortgage Foreclosure

Description:

Requires mortgage foreclosure rescuers to provide specific information and disclosures to distressed property owners and imposes specific prohibitions on mortgage foreclosure rescuers. (SD1)