A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE PREVENTION OF MORTGAGE RESCUE FRAUD.

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 to title 26 a new chapter to be appropriately designated
- 5 and to read as follows:
- 6 "CHAPTER

7 MORTGAGE RESCUE FRAUD PREVENTION ACT

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



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



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- 1 distressed property purchaser, including, but not limited to,
- 2 amounts identified as "gift equity", "fees", "escrow", or "down
- 3 payment".
- 4 "Distressed property" means any residential real property
- 5 that:
- 6 (1) Is in foreclosure or at risk of foreclosure because
- 7 payment of any loan that is secured by the residential
- 8 real property is more than sixty days delinquent;
- 9 (2) Had a lien or encumbrance charged against it because
- of nonpayment of any taxes, lease assessments,
- association fees, or maintenance fees;
- 12 (3) Is at risk of having a lien or encumbrance charged
- against it because the payments of any taxes, lease
- 14 assessments, association fees, or maintenance fees are
- more than ninety days delinquent;
- 16 (4) Secures a loan for which a notice of default has been
- 17 given; or
- 18 (5) Secures a loan that has been accelerated.
- "Distressed property consultant" means any person who makes
- 20 any solicitation, representation, or offer to or does perform
- 21 any of the following:

1	(1)	stop or postpone the foreclosure sale or loss 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 state 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;

1	(7)	Assist the owner in foreclosure, loan default, or
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 of a notice of
6		default or the conduct of a foreclosure sale or tax
7		sale; or
8	(9)	Save the owner's residence from foreclosure or loss of
9		home due to nonpayment of taxes.
10	A "d	istressed property consultant" does not include any of
11	the follow	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		the 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;

	(3)	banks, savings banks, savings and roan associations,
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	tressed 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.

22

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

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- 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 but not limited to the total
- 5 amount and terms of compensation to be directly or indirectly
- 6 received by the 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.

ı	(d) A distressed property consultant 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
12	contract. (a) A distressed property consultant contract shall
12 13	contract. (a) A distressed property consultant contract shall contain, immediately before the space reserved for all the
12 13 14	<pre>contract. (a) A distressed property consultant contract shall contain, immediately before the space reserved for all the distressed property owners' signatures, the following notice of</pre>
12 13 14 15	contract. (a) A distressed property consultant contract shall contain, immediately before the space reserved for all the distressed property owners' signatures, the following notice of right to cancel a distressed property consultant contract in a
12 13 14 15 16	contract. (a) A distressed property consultant contract shall contain, immediately before the space reserved for all the distressed property owners' signatures, the following notice of right to cancel a distressed property consultant contract in a type size no smaller than fourteen-point boldface type,
12 13 14 15 16	contract. (a) A distressed property consultant contract shall contain, immediately before the space reserved for all the distressed property owners' signatures, the following notice of right to cancel a distressed property consultant contract in a type size no smaller than fourteen-point boldface type, completed with the name of the distressed property consultant:
12 13 14 15 16 17	contract. (a) A distressed property consultant contract shall contain, immediately before the space reserved for all the distressed property owners' signatures, the following notice of right to cancel a distressed property consultant contract in a type size no smaller than fourteen-point boldface type, completed with the name of the distressed property consultant: YOU, THE OWNER, MAY CANCEL THIS TRANSACTION AT ANY TIME

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 the distressed
9		property consultant said it would do; or
10	(2)	Ask you to sign or have you sign any lien,
11		encumbrance, mortgage, assignment, or deed unless the
12		lien, encumbrance, mortgage, assignment, or deed is
13		fully described including all disclosures required by
14		law.
15	(b)	A distressed property consultant contract shall be
16	accompani	ed by the following form, in duplicate, attached to the
17	contract	and easily detachable, in a type size no smaller than
18	fourteen-	point boldface type, completed with the date the
19	contract	was last signed, the name of the distressed property
20	consultan	t and the address where the notice of cancellation is
21	to be del	ivered:

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 shall have the right
- 4 to 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.
- (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	S	-6 Distressed property conveyance contract. (a) A
2	distresse	ed property conveyance contract shall be in writing and
3	shall ful	ly disclose all rights and obligations of the
4	distresse	ed 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	1ly 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 but not limited to any
15		services of any nature that the distressed property
16		purchaser represents will be performed for any owner
17		of the distressed property before or after the
18		distressed 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 ENDED, (Name
12	of distressed property purchaser) OR ANYONE WORKING FOR
13	(Name of distressed property purchaser) CANNOT ASK YOU TO
14	SIGN OR HAVE YOU SIGN ANY DEED OR ANY OTHER DOCUMENT. YOU
15	ARE URGED TO HAVE THIS CONTRACT REVIEWED BY AN ATTORNEY OF
16	YOUR CHOICE WITHIN FIVE BUSINESS DAYS OF SIGNING IT;
17	and
18	(6) If title to the distressed property will be
19	transferred in the conveyance transaction, the
20	following notice, in a type size no smaller than
21	fourteen-point boldface type, completed with the name
22	of the distressed property purchaser, shall appear

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

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

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

1	YOU MAY CANCEL THIS CONTRACT FOR THE SALE OF YOUR HOME,
2	WITHOUT ANY PENALTY OR OBLIGATION, AT ANY TIME BEFORE THE
3	LATER OF MIDNIGHT OF THE FIFTH BUSINESS DAY FOLLOWING THE
4	DAY ON WHICH THE LAST PARTY TO A DISTRESSED PROPERTY
5	CONVEYANCE CONTRACT SIGNS THE DISTRESSED PROPERTY
6	CONVEYANCE CONTRACT OR 5:00 P.M. ON THE LAST DAY OF THE
7	PERIOD DURING WHICH ANY OWNER OF A DISTRESSED PROPERTY HAS
8	THE RIGHT TO CURE THE DEFAULT UNDER HAWAII LAW.
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 purchaser) AT (Address where notice of
14	cancellation is to be delivered) NOT LATER THAN (Enter date
15	and time of day).
16	
17	I HEREBY CANCEL THIS TRANSACTION.
18	
19	
20	(DATE)
21	
22	(Seller's signature)

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-8 Cancellation of a distressed property conveyance
 1
 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 conveyance contract, without any
    penalty or obligation, at any time before the later of midnight
 5
    of the fifth business day following the day on which the last
 6
 7
    party to a distressed property conveyance contract signs the
 8
    distressed property conveyance contract or 5:00 p.m. on the last
9
    day of the period during which any owner of a distressed
10
    property has the right to cure a default under state law.
              The period of five business days following the day on
11
         (b)
12
    which the last party to a distressed property conveyance
    contract signs the contract during which any owner of the
13
14
    distressed property may cancel the contract shall not begin to
15
    run until all parties to the distressed property conveyance
16
    contract have executed the distressed property conveyance
17
    contract and the distressed property purchaser has complied with
    all the requirements of sections
18
                                        -6,
                                               -7. and
                                                           -8.
19
         (c) Cancellation occurs when any owner of a distressed
20
    property delivers, by any means, written notice of cancellation
21
    to the address specified in the distressed property conveyance
22
    contract.
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- 1 (d) Notice of cancellation, if given by mail, is effective
- 2 when deposited in the mail with postage prepaid. Notice by
- 3 certified mail, return receipt requested, addressed to the
- 4 address specified in the distressed property conveyance
- 5 contract, shall be conclusive proof of notice of cancellation.
- 6 (e) Notice of cancellation given by any owner of a
- 7 distressed property need not take the particular form as
- 8 provided with the distressed property conveyance contract and,
- 9 however expressed, is effective if it indicates the intention of
- 10 an owner not to be bound by the contract.
- 11 (f) Within ten days following receipt of a notice of
- 12 cancellation given in accordance with this section, the
- 13 distressed property purchaser shall return, without condition,
- 14 any and all original contracts and documents signed by any owner
- 15 of the distressed property.
- 16 § -9 Distressed property lease. (a) A distressed
- 17 property lease shall be in writing and shall fully disclose:
- 18 (1) All rights and obligations of the distressed property
- 19 lessor and distressed property lessee;
- 20 (2) The exact terms of the agreement between the
- 21 distressed property lessor and distressed property
- 22 lessee;

1	(3)	The exact period of time the distressed property lease
2		is to be in effect; and
3	(4)	The total amount and terms of compensation to be
4		directly or indirectly received by the distressed
5		property lessor.
6	(b)	Distressed property lessees shall be afforded all
7	rights un	der the landlord-tenant code of the State. No
8	distresse	d property lease shall provide a distressed property
9	lessee wi	th rights less than that provided by the State's
10	landlord-	tenant code as set forth in chapters 521 and 666.
11	(c)	The first page of a distressed property lease shall
12	contain i	n a type size no smaller than fourteen-point boldface
13	type:	
14	(1)	A description of the distressed property;

- (1) A description of the distressed property;
- (2) The name, street address, and telephone number of the 15 16 distressed property lessor; and
- (3) The name and address of the distressed property lessor 17 to which lease or rental payments, correspondence, and 18 19 notices are to be mailed.
- 20 (d) A distressed property lease shall be dated and signed by the distressed property lessor. If the distressed property 21
- lessor is a person other than an individual, the individual 22

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

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

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

1	(3)	Make	any	promis	se or	guai	rantee	not	fully	disclosed	in
2		the o	distr	cessed	prop	erty	convey	yance	conta	act;	

- (4) Engage or attempt to engage in any activity or act concerning the distressed property not fully disclosed in the distressed property conveyance contract;
- (5) Induce or attempt to induce a distressed property
 owner to engage in any activity or act not fully
 disclosed in the distressed property conveyance
 contract:
- property conveyance unless the distressed property
 purchaser verifies and can demonstrate that an owner
 of the distressed property has a reasonable ability to
 pay any amounts due to reacquire an interest in the
 distressed property or to make monthly or any other
 payments due under a distressed property conveyance
 contract or distressed property lease, if the
 distressed property purchaser allows any owner of a
 distressed property to remain in, occupy, use, or
 repurchase the distressed property;
 - (7) Fail to make a payment to the owner of the distressed property at the time the title is conveyed so that the

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

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

1		(D)	Execute an instrument of conveyance of any
2			interest in the distressed property; or
3		(C)	Pursuant to chapter 501 or 502, record any
4			document signed by an owner of a distressed
5			property, including but not limited to, any
6			instrument of conveyance;
7	(12)	Fail	to re-convey title in a distressed property to
8		the o	distressed property owner or owners when the terms
9		of tl	ne distressed property conveyance contract have
10		been	fulfilled if the distressed property consultant
11		or d	istressed property purchaser contracted or
12		repre	esented that title in the distressed property
13		would	d be re-conveyed to the distressed property owner
14		or ov	wners when the terms of the distressed property
15		conve	eyance contract have been fulfilled;
16	(13)	Induc	ce or attempt to induce an owner of the distressed
17		prope	erty to execute a quit claim deed concerning a
18		distr	essed property;
19	(14)	Enter	into a distressed property conveyance contract
20		where	e any party to the contract is represented by
21		power	of attorney;

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

1		escrow; provided that the person does not charge
2		any escrow fee; or
3	(D)	A person licensed to practice law in the State
4		who, in escrow, is not acting as the employee of
5		a corporation; provided that the person does not
6		charge any escrow fee; or
7	(17) Caus	e the property to be conveyed or encumbered
8	with	out the knowledge or permission of all owners of a
9	dist	ressed property or in any way frustrate the
10	abil	ity of a distressed property owner to reacquire
11	the	distressed property.
12	(c) Ther	e is a rebuttable presumption that an appraisal by
13	a person licen	sed or certified as a real property appraiser by
14	the State or t	he federal government is an accurate determination
15	of the fair ma	rket value of the property.
16	(d) An e	valuation of "reasonable ability to pay" under
17	this chapter s	hall include debt to income ratio, fair market
18	value of the d	istressed property, and the distressed property
19	owner's payment	t history.
20	§ -11	Violation, penalties. (a) Any person who
21	violates any p	rovision of this chapter shall be deemed to have

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

Report Title:

Mortgage Foreclosure Rescue Fraud Prevention Act

Description:

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