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WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

REGULAR SESSION, 1994

ENROLLED

Com. Sub. For HOUSE BILL No. 417/

(By Delegate \$	Trump,	Burk	Lowe,)
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Passed		Ma	sch!	<u>/</u>	1994
In Effect	90	Dary	o As	om	. Passage
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ENROLLED

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

FOR

H. B. 4171

(By Delegates Trump, Burk, Rowe, Huffman and Kiss)

[Passed March 11, 1994; in effect ninety days from passage.]

AN ACT to amend and reenact section two, article eleven, chapter thirty-seven of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, relating to changing the time period for curing technical deficiencies in documents that effect real estate conveyances and transactions from ten to five years.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That section two, article eleven, chapter thirty-seven of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, be amended and reenacted to read as follows:

ARTICLE 11. CURATIVE PROVISIONS RESPECTING DEEDS AND OTHER WRITINGS AND THE RECORDATION THEREOF.

§37-11-2. Validation of instruments, acknowledgments and records.

- 1 (a) No deed or other writing conveying or purporting
- 2 to convey or release or assign real estate, or any interest
- 3 therein, or to create any power of attorney relating to
- 4 real estate or any interest therein, heretofore made or
- 5 executed and delivered by any person or persons
- 6 whomsoever, or by a husband and wife to a bona fide
- 7 purchaser for good and valuable consideration, and
- 8 acknowledged by him or them before an officer duly

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9 authorized by law to take such acknowledgments, if 10 such deed, writing or power of attorney was made, executed, acknowledged and delivered prior to the 11 12 seventh day of June, one thousand nine hundred fifty-13 five, shall be deemed, held or adjudged invalid, or defective, or insufficient in law or in equity, by reason 14 15 of any informality or omission in setting forth the 16 particulars of the acknowledgment made before such officer aforesaid in the certification thereof, or in stating 17 18 the official character of such officer, or the place of 19 taking the acknowledgment, or by reason of the fact that 20 the wife executed such instrument prior to the execution 21 thereof by the husband, or by reason of the fact that the 22 parties making or executing the instrument or writing, 23 or any of them omitted to seal the same, or by reason 24 of the fact that the official taking the acknowledgment 25 omitted his official seal, or by reason of the failure to 26 set forth the date of the deed or other writing or the date 27 of the acknowledgment in the certification thereof, or by 28 reason of the failure to set forth correctly the date of 29 the deed or other writing or the date of the acknowl-30 edgment in the certification thereof.

(b) If a period of five years has elapsed from the date of recordation of any deed or other writing, and if said deed or other writing has an acknowledgment considered defective for any reason, then every such deed or other writing shall be as good, valid and effectual in law as if the law with respect to acknowledgments and seals, in force at the date of such acknowledgment had been fully complied with; and the record of the same duly made in the proper office for recording deeds in the state of West Virginia, or in the state of Virginia before formation of West Virginia, and exemplifications of the same duly certified, shall be legal evidence in all cases in which the original would be competent evidence: *Provided*, That this section shall not apply to suits now pending and undetermined insofar as it amends laws existing at the time such pending suits were instituted, nor to any suit that may be brought within one year after the day this section takes effect, insofar as it amends laws existing at the time this section takes effect; nor shall this section apply to any deed or other

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writing which has heretofore been declared or held invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction.

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The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that
the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.
Chairman Senate Committee
Enset C more
$Chairman\ House\ Committee$
Originating in the House.
Takes effect ninety days from passage.
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Clerk of the Senate
Donald L. Kopp
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President of the Senate
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Speaker of the House of Delegates
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day of Mark 1994
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Date

Time