

Introduced by the County Services and Finance Committee of the:

INGHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REGISTER OF DEEDS TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR
LEGAL SERVICES WITH THE HOME DEFENSE LEAGUE TO RECOVER LOST
TRANSFER TAX**

RESOLUTION #11-192

WHEREAS, the Register of Deeds is responsible for collecting property tax payments of property transfers in the county, including but not limited to Sheriff deeds and other deeds or documents transferring property rights; and

WHEREAS, any person seeking to record transfers of interests in land, must remit payment of specific fees and taxes to the Register of Deeds at the time the recording is made. MCL 600.2567; MCL 207.523; and

WHEREAS, Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac have recorded numerous deeds in Ingham County transferring property interests for which Real Estate Transfer Taxes have not been paid as required by law; and

WHEREAS, Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac have used a tax exemption that they should not have qualified for in order to avoid said tax; and

WHEREAS, numerous banks and foreclosure firms have assigned mortgages to Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac to avoid their own transfer tax.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Ingham County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Register of Deeds to enter into an agreement with Home Defense League to represent the County to file suit for Real Estate Transfer Fees contingent on sign off of the County Attorney and the County Controller/Administrator, on a 15% contingency of the recovery, plus costs, as authorized by the agreement. The 15% contingency shall include all attorney fees on appeal.

COUNTY SERVICES: Yeas: De Leon, Copedge, Celentino, Schor, Vickers, Dragonetti
Nays: None **Absent:** None **Approved 6/21/11**

FINANCE: Yeas: Schor, Tsernoglou, Nolan, Bahar-Cook, McGrain, Dougan
Nays: None **Absent:** None **Approved 6/22/11**