

Act No. 154
Public Acts of 1997
Approved by the Governor
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STATE OF MICHIGAN
89TH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 1997

**Introduced by Reps. Tesanovich, Cherry, Anthony, Gagliardi, Prusi, Hale, Bobier, Parks, Bogardus,
Horton, Lowe, LaForge and Hanley**

ENROLLED HOUSE BILL No. 4273

AN ACT to amend 1945 PA 200, entitled "An act to define a marketable record title to an interest in land; to require the filing of notices of claim of interest in such land in certain cases within a definite period of time and to require the recording thereof; to make invalid and of no force or effect all claims with respect to the land affected thereby where no such notices of claim of interest are filed within the required period; to provide for certain penalties for filing slanderous notices of claim of interest, and to provide certain exceptions to the applicability and operation thereof," by amending sections 1, 2, 3, and 6 (MCL 565.101, 565.102, 565.103, and 565.106) and by adding section 1a.

The People of the State of Michigan enact:

Sec. 1. Any person, having the legal capacity to own land in this state, who has an unbroken chain of title of record to any interest in land for 20 years for mineral interests and 40 years for other interests, shall at the end of the applicable period be considered to have a marketable record title to that interest, subject only to claims to that interest and defects of title as are not extinguished or barred by application of this act and subject also to any interests and defects as are inherent in the provisions and limitations contained in the muniments of which the chain of record title is formed and which have been recorded within 3 years after the effective date of the amendatory act that added section 1a or during the 20-year period for mineral interests and the 40-year period for other interests. However, a person shall not be considered to have a marketable record title by reason of this act, if the land in which the interest exists is in the hostile possession of another.

Sec. 1a. As used in this act, "mineral interest" means an interest in minerals in any land if the interest in minerals is owned by a person other than the owner of the surface of the land. Mineral interest does not include an interest in oil or gas or an interest in sand, gravel, limestone, clay, or marl.

Sec. 2. A person is considered to have an unbroken chain of title to an interest in land as provided in section 1 when the official public records disclose either of the following:

(a) A conveyance or other title transaction not less than 20 years in the past for mineral interests and 40 years for other interests, which conveyance or other title transaction purports to create the interest in that person, with nothing appearing of record purporting to divest that person of the purported interest.

(b) A conveyance or other title transaction not less than 20 years in the past for mineral interests and 40 years for other interests, which conveyance or other title transaction purports to create the interest in some other person and other conveyances or title transactions of record by which the purported interest has become vested in the person first referred to in this section, with nothing appearing of record purporting to divest the person first referred to in this section of the purported interest.

Sec. 3. Marketable title shall be held by a person and shall be taken by his or her successors in interest free and clear of any and all interests, claims, and charges whatsoever the existence of which depends in whole or in part upon any act, transaction, event, or omission that occurred prior to the 20-year period for mineral interests, and the 40-year period for other interests, and all interests, claims, and charges are hereby declared to be null and void and of no effect at law or in equity. However, an interest, claim, or charge may be preserved and kept effective by filing for record within 3 years after the effective date of the amendatory act that added section 1a or during the 20-year period for mineral interests and the 40-year period for other interests, a notice in writing, verified by oath, setting forth the nature of the claim. A disability or lack of knowledge of any kind on the part of anyone does not suspend the running of the 20-year period for mineral interests or the 40-year period for other interests. For the purpose of recording notices of claim for homestead interests the date from which the 20-year period for mineral interests and the 40-year period for other interests shall run shall be the date of recording of the instrument, nonjoinder, in which is the basis for the claim. A notice may be filed for record by the claimant or by any other person acting on behalf of any claimant if 1 or more of the following conditions exist:

(a) The claimant is under a disability.

(b) The claimant is unable to assert a claim on his or her own behalf.

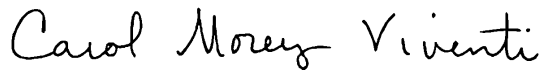
(c) The claimant is 1 of a class but whose identity cannot be established or is uncertain at the time of filing the notice of claim for record.

Sec. 6. This act shall be construed to effect the legislative purpose of simplifying and facilitating land title transactions by allowing persons dealing with the record title owner, as defined in this act, to rely on the record title covering a period of not more than 20 years for mineral interests and 40 years for other interests prior to the date of such dealing and to that end to extinguish all claims that affect or may affect the interest dealt with, the existence of which claims arises out of or depends upon any act, transaction, event, or omission antedating the 20-year period for mineral interests and the 40-year period for other interests, unless within the 20-year period for mineral interests or the 40-year period for other interests a notice of claim as provided in section 3 has been filed for record. The claims extinguished by this act are any and all interests of any nature whatever, however denominated, and whether the claims are asserted by a person sui juris or under disability, whether the person is within or outside the state, and whether the person is natural or corporate, or private or governmental.

This act is ordered to take immediate effect.



Clerk of the House of Representatives.



Secretary of the Senate.

Approved _____

Governor.