

**As Passed by the House**

**127th General Assembly  
Regular Session  
2007-2008**

**S. B. No. 134**

**Senator Faber**

**Cosponsors: Senators Harris, Kearney, Sawyer, Wilson, Schuler, Spada,  
Smith, Mason**

**Representatives Seitz, Huffman, Hughes, Oelslager, Batchelder, Blessing,  
Bolon, Bulp, Budish, Coley, Combs, Core, DeGeeter, Domenick, Evans,  
Flowers, Garrison, Gibbs, Harwood, Letson, Okey, Schindel, Williams, B.,  
Yates, Zehringer**

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**A B I L L**

To amend sections 5301.01 and 5301.255 of the Revised Code to provide that memoranda of trust be executed and acknowledged only by the trustee of the trust instead of both the settlor and trustee.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:**

**Section 1.** That sections 5301.01 and 5301.255 of the Revised Code be amended to read as follows:

**Sec. 5301.01.** (A) A deed, mortgage, land contract as referred to in division (A)(2)(b) of section 317.08 of the Revised Code, or lease of any interest in real property and a memorandum of trust as described in division (A) of section 5301.255 of the Revised Code shall be signed by the grantor, mortgagor, vendor, or lessor in the case of a deed, mortgage, land contract, or lease or shall be signed by the ~~settlor and~~ trustee in the case of a memorandum of trust. The signing shall be acknowledged by the grantor,

mortgagor, vendor, or lessor, or by the ~~settlor~~ and trustee, 15  
before a judge or clerk of a court of record in this state, or a 16  
county auditor, county engineer, notary public, or mayor, who 17  
shall certify the acknowledgement and subscribe the official's 18  
name to the certificate of the acknowledgement. 19

(B)(1) If a deed, mortgage, land contract as referred to in 20  
division (A)(2)(b) of section 317.08 of the Revised Code, lease of 21  
any interest in real property, or a memorandum of trust as 22  
described in division (A) of section 5301.255 of the Revised Code 23  
was executed prior to February 1, 2002, and was not acknowledged 24  
in the presence of, or was not attested by, two witnesses as 25  
required by this section prior to that date, both of the following 26  
apply: 27

(a) The instrument is deemed properly executed and is 28  
presumed to be valid unless the signature of the grantor, 29  
mortgagor, vendor, or lessor in the case of a deed, mortgage, land 30  
contract, or lease or of the settlor and trustee in the case of a 31  
memorandum of trust was obtained by fraud. 32

(b) The recording of the instrument in the office of the 33  
county recorder of the county in which the subject property is 34  
situated is constructive notice of the instrument to all persons, 35  
including without limitation, a subsequent purchaser in good faith 36  
or any other subsequent holder of an interest in the property, 37  
regardless of whether the instrument was recorded prior to, on, or 38  
after February 1, 2002. 39

(2) Division (B)(1) of this section does not affect any 40  
accrued substantive rights or vested rights that came into 41  
existence prior to February 1, 2002. 42

**Sec. 5301.255.** (A) A memorandum of trust that satisfies both 43  
of the following may be presented for recordation in the office of 44  
the county recorder of any county in which real property that is 45

subject to the trust is located: 46

(1) The memorandum shall be executed by the ~~settlor and~~ 47  
trustee of the trust and acknowledged by the ~~settlor and~~ trustee 48  
of the trust in accordance with section 5301.01 of the Revised 49  
Code. 50

(2) The memorandum shall state all of the following: 51

(a) The ~~names~~ name and ~~addresses~~ address of the ~~settlor and~~ 52  
trustee of the trust; 53

(b) The date of execution of the trust; 54

(c) The powers specified in the trust relative to the 55  
acquisition, sale, or encumbering of real property by the trustee 56  
or the conveyance of real property by the trustee, and any 57  
restrictions upon those powers. 58

(B) A memorandum of trust that satisfies divisions (A)(1) and 59  
(2) of this section also may set forth the substance or actual 60  
text of provisions of the trust that are not described in those 61  
divisions. 62

(C) A memorandum of trust that satisfies divisions (A)(1) and 63  
(2) of this section shall constitute notice only of the 64  
information contained in it. 65

(D) Upon the presentation for recordation of a memorandum of 66  
trust that satisfies divisions (A)(1) and (2) of this section and 67  
the payment of the requisite fee prescribed in section 317.32 of 68  
the Revised Code, a county recorder shall record the memorandum of 69  
trust as follows: 70

(1) Unless division (D)(2) of this section applies, in the 71  
record of deeds described in division (A)(1) of section 317.08 of 72  
the Revised Code, if the memorandum of trust describes specific 73  
real property, or in the record of powers of attorney described in 74  
division (A)(3) of that section, if the memorandum of trust does 75

not describe specific real property; 76

(2) If the county recorder records instruments in accordance 77  
with division (C) of section 317.08 of the Revised Code, in the 78  
official records described in that division. 79

**Section 2.** That existing sections 5301.01 and 5301.255 of the 80  
Revised Code are hereby repealed. 81