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I N   A S S E M B L Y

June 16, 2010

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Introduced by COMMITTEE ON RULES -- (at request of M. of A. Weinstein)  
-- read once and referred to the Committee on Judiciary

AN ACT to amend the real property actions and proceedings law, in  
relation to standing to commence an action to foreclose a mortgage

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1     Section 1. Subdivision 1 of section 1302 of the real property actions  
2     and proceedings law, as amended by chapter 472 of the laws of 2008, is  
3     amended to read as follows:  
4     1. Any complaint served in a proceeding initiated pursuant to this  
5     article relating to a high-cost home loan or a subprime home loan, as  
6     such terms are defined in section six-l and six-m of the banking law,  
7     respectively, must contain an affirmative allegation that at the time  
8     the proceeding is commenced, the plaintiff[:  
9     (a) is the owner and holder of the subject mortgage and note, or has  
10    been delegated the authority to institute a mortgage foreclosure action  
11    by the owner and holder of the subject mortgage and note; and  
12    (b)] has complied with all of the provisions of section five hundred  
13    ninety-five-a of the banking law and any rules and regulations promul-  
14    gated thereunder, section six-l or six-m of the banking law, and SUBDI-  
15    VISION TWO OF SECTION THIRTEEN HUNDRED TWO-A AND section thirteen  
16    hundred four of this article.  
17    S 2. The real property actions and proceedings law is amended by  
18    adding a new section 1302-a to read as follows:  
19    S 1302-A. STANDING TO COMMENCE AN ACTION. 1. NO PERSON SHALL HAVE  
20    STANDING TO COMMENCE AN ACTION PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE UNLESS IT IS THE  
21    OWNER AND HOLDER OF THE SUBJECT MORTGAGE AND NOTE, OR HAS BEEN DELEGATED  
22    THE AUTHORITY TO INSTITUTE A MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE ACTION BY THE OWNER  
23    AND HOLDER OF THE SUBJECT MORTGAGE AND NOTE. NOTWITHSTANDING THE  
24    PROVISIONS OF SUBDIVISION (E) OF RULE THIRTY-TWO HUNDRED ELEVEN OF THE  
25    CIVIL PRACTICE LAW AND RULES, ANY DEFENSE BASED ON THE PLANITIFF'S LACK  
26    OF STANDING IN A FORECLOSURE PROCEEDING SHALL NOT BE WAIVED IF A DEFEND-  
27    ANT FAILS TO RAISE THE DEFENSE IN A RESPONSIVE PLEADING OR PRE-ANSWER  
28    MOTION TO DISMISS.

EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets  
[ ] is old law to be omitted.

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1 2. EVERY SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT TO COMMENCE A FORECLOSURE ACTION SHALL  
2 INCLUDE AN AFFIRMATIVE ALLEGATION THAT AT THE TIME THE PROCEEDING IS  
3 COMMENCED, THE PLAINTIFF IS THE OWNER AND HOLDER OF THE SUBJECT MORTGAGE  
4 AND NOTE, OR HAS BEEN DELEGATED THE AUTHORITY TO INSTITUTE A MORTGAGE  
5 FORECLOSURE ACTION BY THE OWNER AND HOLDER OF THE SUBJECT MORTGAGE AND  
6 NOTE. IN ADDITION, THE PLAINTIFF SHALL PLEAD IN ITS COMPLAINT THAT THE  
7 ORIGINALS OF THE SUBJECT MORTGAGE AND NOTE ARE IN ITS POSSESSION AND  
8 CONTROL, AND THAT SUCH PLAINTIFF IS OTHERWISE ENTITLED TO ENFORCE THE  
9 SUBJECT MORTGAGE AND NOTE PURSUANT TO LAW.

10 3. THERE SHALL BE FILED WITH EVERY SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT TO COMMENCE A  
11 FORECLOSURE ACTION:

12 (A) A COPY OF THE ORIGINAL SUBJECT MORTGAGE AND NOTE, AND PROOF OF THE  
13 OWNERSHIP THEREOF INCLUDING ALL ORIGINAL ENDORSEMENTS, ASSIGNMENTS AND  
14 TRANSFERS OF SUCH MORTGAGE AND NOTE; AND

15 (B) IF APPLICABLE, PROOF OF DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY FROM THE OWNER AND  
16 HOLDER OF THE SUBJECT MORTGAGE AND NOTE TO INSTITUTE A MORTGAGE FORECLO-  
17 SURE ACTION ON BEHALF OF SUCH OWNER AND HOLDER.

18 S 3. This act shall take effect immediately, except that section one  
19 of this act and subdivisions 2 and 3 of section 1302-a of the real prop-  
20 erty actions and proceedings law, as added by section two of this act,  
21 shall take effect on the ninetieth day after it shall have become a law.