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SENATE BILL 5073

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State of Washington

56th Legislature

1999 Regular Session

By Senators Morton and Hochstatter

Read first time 01/11/1999. Referred to Committee on Natural Resources, Parks & Recreation.

1 AN ACT Relating to the sale of land granted to the state by the  
2 United States; and amending RCW 79.01.096.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 79.01.096 and 1982 c 54 s 1 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6 Not more than one hundred and sixty acres of any land granted to  
7 the state by the United States shall be offered for sale in one parcel  
8 and no university lands shall be offered for sale except by legislative  
9 directive or with the consent of the board of regents of the University  
10 of Washington.

11 Beginning January 1, 1998, not more than six thousand four hundred  
12 acres of any land granted to the state by the United States may be  
13 offered for sale, transfer, trade, or exchange in one parcel except by  
14 explicit legislative directive.

15 Any land granted to the state by the United States may be sold or  
16 leased for any lawful purpose in such minimum acreage as may be fixed  
17 by the department of natural resources.

18 Except as otherwise provided in RCW 79.01.770, upon the application  
19 of a school district or any institution of higher education for the

1 purchase or lease of lands granted to the state by the United States,  
2 the department of natural resources may offer such land for sale or  
3 lease to such school district or institution of higher education in  
4 such acreage as it may determine, consideration being given upon  
5 application of a school district to school site criteria established by  
6 the state board of education: PROVIDED, That in the event the  
7 department thereafter proposes to offer such land for sale or lease at  
8 public auction such school district or institution of higher education  
9 shall have a preference right for six months from notice of such  
10 proposal to purchase or lease such land at the appraised value  
11 determined by the board of natural resources.

12 State lands shall not be leased for a longer period than ten years:  
13 PROVIDED, That such lands may be leased for the purpose of prospecting  
14 for, developing and producing oil, gas and other hydrocarbon substances  
15 or for the mining of coal subject to the provisions of chapter 79.14  
16 RCW and RCW 79.01.692. Such lands may be leased for agricultural  
17 purposes for any period not to exceed twenty-five years except that  
18 such leases which authorize tree fruit and grape production may be for  
19 any period up to fifty-five years. Such lands may be leased for public  
20 school, college or university purposes for any period not exceeding  
21 seventy-five years. Such lands may be leased for commercial,  
22 industrial, business, or recreational purposes for any period not  
23 exceeding fifty-five years. Such lands may be leased for residential  
24 purposes for any period not to exceed ninety-nine years. If during the  
25 term of the lease of any state lands for agricultural, grazing,  
26 commercial, residential, business, or recreational purposes, in the  
27 opinion of the department it is in the best interest of the state so to  
28 do, the department may, on the application of the lessee and in  
29 agreement with the lessee, alter and amend the terms and conditions of  
30 such lease. The sum total of the original lease term and any extension  
31 thereof shall not exceed the limits provided herein.

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