
HOUSE BILL 2237

State of Washington 59th Legislature 2005 Regular Session

By Representatives Cox, Holmquist, Grant, Kretz, Kristiansen and Buri

Read first time 02/25/2005. Referred to Committee on Natural Resources, Ecology & Parks.

1 AN ACT Relating to acquiring state agricultural lands; and
2 reenacting and amending RCW 79.17.010.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 79.17.010 and 2003 1st sp.s. c 25 s 939 and 2003 c 334
5 s 452 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

6 (1) The department, with the approval of the board, may exchange
7 any state land and any timber thereon for any land of equal value in
8 order to:

- 9 (a) Facilitate the marketing of forest products of state lands;
- 10 (b) Consolidate and block-up state lands;
- 11 (c) Acquire lands having commercial recreational leasing potential;
- 12 (d) Acquire county-owned lands;
- 13 (e) Acquire urban property which has greater income potential or
14 which could be more efficiently managed by the department in exchange
15 for state urban lands as defined in RCW 79.19.100; or
- 16 (f) Acquire any other lands when such exchange is determined by the
17 board to be in the best interest of the trust for which the state land
18 is held.

1 (2) Land exchanged under this section shall not be used to reduce
2 the publicly owned forest land base.

3 (3) The board shall determine that each land exchange is in the
4 best interest of the trust for which the land is held prior to
5 authorizing the land exchange.

6 (4) During the biennium ending June 30, 2005, the department, with
7 approval of the board, may exchange any state land and any timber
8 thereon for any land and proceeds of equal value. Proceeds may be in
9 the form of cash or services in order to achieve the purposes
10 established in this section. Any cash received as part of an exchange
11 transaction shall be deposited in the resource management cost account
12 to pay for administrative expenses incurred in carrying out an exchange
13 transaction. The amount of proceeds received from the exchange partner
14 may not exceed five percent of the total value of the exchange. The
15 receipt of proceeds shall not change the character of the transaction
16 from an exchange to a sale.

17 (5) If the department acquires agricultural lands, the department
18 must maintain a five percent rate of return on the land in perpetuity.
19 If the department fails to maintain a five percent rate of return on
20 the land for three consecutive years, the department must sell the
21 property.

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