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**SENATE BILL 5254**

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**State of Washington**

**68th Legislature**

**2023 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Van De Wege, Braun, Mullet, Muzzall, Rolfes, Wagoner, and L. Wilson

Read first time 01/11/23. Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Water, Natural Resources & Parks.

1 AN ACT Relating to the leasing of state lands; and amending RCW  
2 79.13.010.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 79.13.010 and 2007 c 504 s 1 are each amended to  
5 read as follows:

6 (1) (~~Subject~~) Except as provided in subsection (7) of this  
7 section, and subject to other provisions of this chapter and subject  
8 to rules adopted by the board, the department may lease state lands  
9 for purposes it deems advisable, including, but not limited to,  
10 commercial, industrial, residential, agricultural, and recreational  
11 purposes in order to obtain a fair market rental return to the state  
12 or the appropriate constitutional or statutory trust, and if the  
13 lease is in the best interest of the state or affected trust.

14 (2) Notwithstanding any provision in this chapter to the  
15 contrary, in leases for residential purposes, the board may waive or  
16 modify any conditions of the lease if the waiver or modification is  
17 necessary to enable any federal agency or lending institution  
18 authorized to do business in this state or elsewhere in the United  
19 States to participate in any loan secured by a security interest in a  
20 leasehold interest.

1           (3) Any land granted to the state by the United States may be  
2 leased for any lawful purpose in such minimum acreage as may be fixed  
3 by the department.

4           (4) The department shall exercise general supervision and control  
5 over the lease of state lands for any lawful purpose.

6           (5) State lands leased or for which permits are issued or  
7 contracts are entered into for the prospecting and extraction of  
8 valuable materials, coal, oil, gas, or other hydrocarbons are subject  
9 to the provisions of chapter 79.14 RCW.

10          (6) The department may also lease or lease development rights on  
11 state lands held for the benefit of the common schools to public  
12 agencies, as defined in RCW 79.17.200.

13          (7) Except for agricultural or grazing leases, any lease  
14 involving 250 acres or more of state lands or state forestlands is  
15 subject to approval by the board.

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