

1 State of Arkansas  
2 95th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2025  
4

As Engrossed: H1/27/25

## A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1121

5 By: Representative Long  
6 By: Senator A. Clark  
7

### For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO REPEAL THE LAW CONCERNING THE TRANSFER OF  
10 TAX-FORFEITED LANDS TO STATE INSTITUTIONS; AND FOR  
11 OTHER PURPOSES.  
12  
13

### Subtitle

15 TO REPEAL THE LAW CONCERNING THE  
16 TRANSFER OF TAX-FORFEITED LANDS TO STATE  
17 INSTITUTIONS.  
18

19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
20

21 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 22-6-501 is repealed.

22 ~~22-6-501. Transfer to state institutions.~~

23 ~~(a)(1) The Commissioner of State Lands is authorized upon application~~  
24 ~~of the director of any state department or agency, the management or the~~  
25 ~~board of trustees of any state institution, or the chief executive of any~~  
26 ~~county, city, or school district of this state to issue to the applying~~  
27 ~~governmental unit a deed for land listed on the Commissioner of State Lands'~~  
28 ~~records as having been forfeited for the nonpayment of taxes.~~

29 ~~(2) The application shall include the following:~~

30 ~~(A) The proposed use of the land;~~

31 ~~(B) The proposed duration for the stated use; and~~

32 ~~(C) The division or department designated for the~~

33 ~~maintenance and operation of the property once deeded. Moreover, the~~  
34 ~~Commissioner of State Lands is authorized to accept the application as~~  
35 ~~submitted or recommend modifications to the application. The Commissioner of~~  
36 ~~State Lands is further empowered to disallow any application determined by~~



1 ~~the Commissioner of State Lands to be contrary to the best interests of the~~  
2 ~~health and general welfare of the state and its citizens.~~

3 ~~(b)(1) The deed issued by the Commissioner of State Lands to a state~~  
4 ~~department or agency, state institution, city, county, or school district may~~  
5 ~~contain restrictive covenants or reservations stating that should the~~  
6 ~~governmental unit no longer desire to use the land for the proposed use~~  
7 ~~stated in the application, said governmental unit shall submit a subsequent~~  
8 ~~letter of application to the Commissioner of State Lands to request change in~~  
9 ~~the use of the property, and the Commissioner of State Lands shall accept,~~  
10 ~~modify, or disallow the request.~~

11 ~~(2) Moreover, should the governmental unit determine that the~~  
12 ~~property can no longer be utilized, the property shall revert to the state,~~  
13 ~~be held by the Commissioner of State Lands, and be treated as tax-forfeited~~  
14 ~~land subject to the powers and authority of the Commissioner of State Lands.~~

15 ~~(3) Because this section applies to the disposition of tax-~~  
16 ~~forfeited land, § 22-6-601 shall not apply herewith.~~

17 ~~(c) No consideration shall be required for the transfer except the fee~~  
18 ~~of one dollar (\$1.00) as required by law.~~

19 ~~(d)(1) All deeds granted by the Commissioner of State Lands prior to~~  
20 ~~the passage of this section are confirmed, and the title of all purchases~~  
21 ~~under the deeds from the Commissioner of State Lands are quieted,~~  
22 ~~established, and confirmed.~~

23 ~~(2) Collection of any outstanding ad valorem property tax~~  
24 ~~indebtedness shall be stayed by the Commissioner of State Lands while title~~  
25 ~~to the property remains with the governmental unit.~~

26 ~~(3) Should the property revert to the state pursuant to~~  
27 ~~subsection (b) of this section, the property may be sold as prescribed by the~~  
28 ~~Commissioner of State Lands.~~

29 ~~(e)(1) Land donated by the Commissioner of State Lands under this~~  
30 ~~section may be used for any lawful purpose or transferred pursuant to any~~  
31 ~~lawful authority of the city or town.~~

32 ~~(2) Owners of property donated to a city or town under this~~  
33 ~~section shall not have any right to retain any of the appraised value of the~~  
34 ~~property.~~

35 ~~(f) Prior to conveyance of property, the Commissioner of State Lands~~  
36 ~~may give consideration to the following issues:~~

