

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

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1121

4
5 By: Representative Long
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For An Act To Be Entitled

8
9 AN ACT TO REPEAL THE LAW CONCERNING THE TRANSFER OF
10 TAX-FORFEITED LANDS TO STATE INSTITUTIONS; AND FOR
11 OTHER PURPOSES.
12
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Subtitle

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15 TO REPEAL THE LAW CONCERNING THE
16 TRANSFER OF TAX-FORFEITED LANDS TO STATE
17 INSTITUTIONS.
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19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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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 Arkansas Code § 22-6-501 is repealed.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:~~

1 ~~(1) Whether the prospective purchaser has a pattern or practice~~
2 ~~of not paying fines resulting from a citation for violation of state laws or~~
3 ~~rules or local codes and ordinances;~~

4 ~~(2) Whether the prospective purchaser has a pattern or practice~~
5 ~~of not timely paying property taxes; and~~

6 ~~(3) Whether the prospective purchaser was the prior owner of~~
7 ~~real property that was transferred to the Commissioner of State Lands as a~~
8 ~~result of tax delinquency during the preceding three (3) years.~~

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