SB 199/HB 282 State Land: Disposal/Sale/Lease/Restrict

DEPORTMENT OF NATURAL RIVERS

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Overview



- Authorize DEED and DOT&PF to directly dispose of surface land, rather than transferring land to the DNR for conveyance.
- Increase the cap on the Land Disposal Income Fund.
- Update and improve provisions relating to DNR's land disposal procedures in AS 19.30, AS 38.04, AS 38.05.
- Amends agricultural use restrictions.
- Add a new statute relating to leases and sales of land for commercial development.

Authority for Direct Disposal of State Land



- Proposed amendment for the Department of Education and Early Development and Department of Transportation and Public Facilities to sell land directly to private parties.
 - Streamlining land disposals, reducing multi-agency involvement.
 - Expanding eligible recipients beyond federal, state agencies, and political subdivisions.

Land Disposal Income Fund (LDIF)



- Raises state land disposal income fund cap from \$5M to \$12M.
- Boosts spending authority for larger projects.
- Addresses inflation since 2000; cap unchanged for 20 years.
- Adjustment to funding cap, not appropriation.
- Department can request limit increase in annual report.

Agricultural Land Lease and Sale Procedures



- Allows broader use of agricultural land and improvements
- Currently an agricultural landowner can only use the land for purposes that are incidental to and not inconsistent with agricultural land
- Proposed amendment would now allow an agricultural landowner to use land for purposes that are consistent with and do not interfere with primary purpose

Access Road Construction



- Access roads to surface disposals may be developed at a pioneer standard.
 - Clarifying language on right-of-way widths within municipal boundaries.
 - Align with municipal zoning requirements to the same extent as private developers.

Land Sale Procedures



- Land sale disposal contracts
 - Longer purchase terms from 20 years to 30 years.
 - Consistency in terms from "Foreclosure" to "Termination."
 - Allows for paid in full purchase when existing infrastructure would increase liability of financing a land sale purchase contract.

Survey Requirements for Leases



- Discretion of cadastral surveys for long-term leases.
 - Survey could be required where infrastructure boundaries or access management is in the best interest of the state.
 - Reduces the financial and administrative burden on industries.
 - Industry is challenged by current requirements.
 - Ex: Renewable energy projects, grazing leases.

Land for Commercial Development



- Stimulate economic development.
- Offers land for leasing, and sale, by requesting proposals.
 - For state land identified or nominated as a Qualified Opportunity Zone.
 - For state land nominated by the public.
 - Land nominated cannot exceed 640 acres.
 - For any other state land the commissioner deems appropriate for commercial development.
- Nominated land may need to be reclassified.
 - Provide additional public notice beyond normal AS 38.05.945

