

BRIEFING PAPER: Land Surface Disposal

– SB97

April 2021

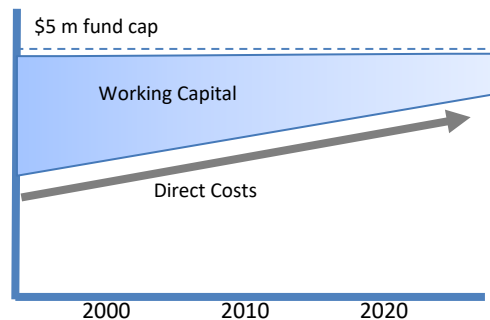
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF MINING, LAND & WATER

Authority to DOT&PF and DEED to Dispose of State Land. Amend current statutes to allow DOT&PF and DEED to acquire and transfer excess buildings and land that is no longer needed for the purposes of the original acquisition. This will streamline the disposal process and reduce multi-agency efforts.

\$12 m Land Disposal Income Fund. The limit to the Land Disposal Income Fund is also proposed to be increased to \$12 million to provide additional capital spending authority for the department to develop and dispose of state lands and to offset inflation realized since the fund was established in 2000.

- \$5 m cap has not adjusted in 20 years
- Personnel and Development costs have increased significantly, reducing the available “working capital”
- Will result in more acreage available for sale and construction of parcel access



Commercial Use Land Sales. New statute governing the leasing and sale of state lands deemed suitable for commercial development, either within Qualified Opportunity Zones or in other areas nominated and assessed by the state as appropriate for commercial development.

- Land can be nominated by the public
- Leasing option to complete requirements for sale and allow immediate commercial activity
- After conclusion of the lease requirements a sale will occur
- Individuals have requested a program to allow for such sales
- The number of acres identified for proposed development will be significant and the number of acres actually conveyed will depend on the proposals received

Agricultural Land Covenants. The Bill amends current statutes to allow for further flexibility in private ownership of agricultural lands conveyed by the Department by reducing the minimum parcel size (40 acres) and the number of subdivided parcels (4) after conveyance and allowing for supporting agricultural activities.

- Land can be subdivided into 8 parcels at a minimum of 20 acres each
- Agricultural activities are not limited to the primary use; this allows for supporting uses such as a Bed and Breakfast operations to support offset agricultural development costs