

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
78R16652 AJA-D

S.B. 1951
By: Ratliff
State Affairs
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As Filed

DIGEST AND PURPOSE

Under the Texas Constitution, the General Land Office and the School Land Board manage and administer the Permanent School Fund and the sovereign land which has been dedicated to the Permanent School Fund. However, they do not have authority to issue a patent for release of title when a portion of state dedicated land is sold. Legislation is required to authorize the School Land Board to sell certain land dedicated to the permanent school fund in exchange for an amount to be determined by the board. As proposed, S.B. 1951 is the enabling legislation for a constitutional amendment that would grant a patent on certain land managed by the School Land Board. The School Land Board, in consultation with the Veterans' Land Board, will determine the amount of consideration for the 35.686 acre parcel.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. (a) Requires the School Land Board, on or before January 1, 2004, to approve a patent to release all of the state's interest in the land described by Subsection (b) of this section, excluding mineral rights, to a person holding the land under a contract for deed with the Veterans' Land Board on January 1, 1964, or an heir or assign of that person, in exchange for consideration in an amount determined by the School Land Board in consultation with the Veterans' Land Board.

(b) Provides that this section applies to the tract of land described as follows: that 35.686 acre tract in that certain judgement under cause No. 75-49, The Veterans Land Board of the State of Texas vs. Alice Christian, in the 4th Judicial District Court of Rusk County, Texas and in that certain judgement in Cause No. 55, 765, State vs. Humble Oil, et al in the 98th District Court of Travis County, Texas; said 117.436 acre tract is also further described in that Contract of Sale to said GRANTEE(s) dated October 14, 1963, recorded in Volume 782, Page 46, Deed Records of said County, Texas.

(c) Provides that this section expires January 1, 2006.

SECTION 2. Effective date: the date on which the constitutional amendment proposed by the 78th Legislature, Regular Session, 2003, to permit the legislature to require the sale of certain land dedicated to the permanent school fund takes effect. Provides that if that amendment is not approved by the voters, this Act has no effect.