

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 677

BY REPRESENTATIVE THOMPSON

PROPERTY: Provides relative to an exchange of property in Tensas Parish

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 41:909, relative to the disposition of school lands; to provide for the sale or
3 exchange of certain state property in Tensas Parish; to provide for the authority of
4 the Tensas Parish School Board; to require appraisal; to provide for the reservation
5 of mineral rights; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 41:909 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

8 §909. Tensas Parish School Board; sale or exchange of school lands

9 A. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, if the Tensas
10 Parish School Board, on behalf of the state of Louisiana, determines that any school
11 land, including but not limited to sixteenth section lands, school indemnity lands, or
12 other immovable property located in Tensas Parish and as more specifically
13 described in any agreements entered into and documents executed by the Tensas
14 Parish School Board, is no longer needed for school purposes and that the best
15 interest of the Tensas Parish school system would be served by the sale or exchange
16 of such land, the school board may sell such lands or exchange it for other lands in
17 Tensas Parish in accordance with this Section.

18 B. The Tensas Parish School Board shall obtain an appraisal of the land to
19 be sold or exchanged from a certified, licensed appraiser and such appraisal shall be
20 available for public inspection.

- 1 C. If land is exchanged, the total consideration received by the Tensas Parish
- 2 School Board, including the value of land received, shall be of equal or greater value
- 3 than the land that the Tensas Parish School Board is to relinquish or exchange.
- 4 D. The Tensas Parish School Board shall reserve to the state all mineral
- 5 rights and interests as required by law.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 677 Engrossed

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Thompson

Abstract: Authorizes the Tensas Parish School Board to sell or exchange 16th section and indemnity lands where it is in the best interest of the Tensas Parish school system to do so.

Present law authorizes school boards to sell unused 16th section lands through a township election process.

Present law authorizes the state to sell indemnity lands and provides for sale through a public auction process.

Present law further authorizes and provides a public auction process for the sale of other unused school lands.

Proposed law authorizes the Tensas Parish School Board to sell or exchange 16th section lands, indemnity lands, or other immovable property in Tensas Parish if the school board determines that the lands are no longer needed for school purposes and the disposition of the lands would be in the best interest of the school system.

Proposed law requires an appraisal of the land and making the appraisal available to the public.

Proposed law requires that if land is exchanged, the school board must receive consideration that is equal to or greater than the value of the land the school board is disposing of in the exchange. Consideration received would include the value of land the school board receives in the exchange.

Proposed law provides for the reservation of mineral rights to the state.

(Adds R.S. 41:909)