

SENATE SUMMARY OF HOUSE AMENDMENTS

SB 119 By Senator Perry

KEYWORD AND SUMMARY AS RETURNED TO THE SENATE

PUBLIC LANDS. Provides relative to leases of public lands. (6/23/11)

SUMMARY OF HOUSE AMENDMENTS TO THE SENATE BILL

1. Changes "current lessee" to "most recent lessee of record, his heirs, or assignees".
2. Requires leases on White Lake property be offered for public bid and be issued or renewed for fair market lease value.
3. Allows the most recent lessee of record, his heirs, or assignees of White Lake property, if that person bid on the lease, to match the highest bid on property that person had been leasing.

DIGEST OF THE SENATE BILL AS RETURNED TO THE SENATE

Present law provides that in order to allow the individual lessee to lease lands from the state in preference to syndicated landholders or corporations, no lease will cover a larger area than 640 acres of public land, which area must be contiguous. Further provides that no lessee may own more than one such lease at one time.

Proposed law provides that the above provisions of present law will not apply to leases of White Lake property.

Proposed law provides that at the end of the term of a lease which was issued on White Lake property which lease was transferred to the state through the act of donation, the property subject to such lease may be offered by the DW&F for lease. Further provides that such lease will be deemed a new lease and must be offered for public bid under the provisions of present law.

Present law provides relative to leases of public lands, including term, payment of consideration, construction of improvements, and requirements and time periods for extension of leases. Excludes port authorities of the state, and has special provisions relating to lease of 16th section school lands for agricultural purposes, and access to public waterways.

Proposed law retains present law, and adds that leases or extensions of leases on the White Lake property shall require that the rental payments be for fair market lease value.

Present law provides if the commissioner or secretary determines there exists a public need to maintain the current lessee, the commissioner or secretary may offer the current lessee, if he made a bid, the option to match the highest bid in order to lease the state lands. Also provides that this will not apply to oyster leases, alligator leases, or oil and gas leases entered into by the DW&F, or to any lease entered into by the State Mineral and Energy Board.

Proposed law retains present law and adds that this highest bid offer shall apply to lessees who held a lease on the White Lake property and changes "current lessee" to "most recent lessee of record, his heirs, or assignees".

Effective June 23, 2011.

(Amends R.S. 41:1217.1(B) and R.S. 56:30.3(B); adds R.S. 56:799.7)