Purchaser of State Lands, Bonds of. State Lands, Purchaser Need Not Furnish Bond.

Under Chapter 147, Laws 1909, the purchaser of state lands is not required to furnish a bond for the payment of deferred payments.

Helena, Montana, May 12, 1909.

Hon. F. H. Ray,

Register, State Land Office,

Helena, Montana.

Dear Sir:

I am in receipt of your letter of May 10, in which you request an opinion upon the following question:

"Are bonds required, by Chapter 147, Laws of 1909, from a purchaser of state lands for the payment of deferred payments on his certificate of purchase?"

We find no provisions in said Chapter 147 providing for the execution of a bond in such cases. One or two sections of the bill make reference to a bond of such character, but do not provide the method of executing the same, and we understand that the bill as originally submitted to the legislature provided for the execution of a bond in such cases but that such provision was stricken out, which explains the reference to a bond in other sections which were not changed accordingly.

Apparently the legislature considered that the forfeiture of the purchaser's right to the land, and of the money paid by him prior to such forfeiture, as provided for in Section 41, was a sufficient protection to the state without also requiring a bond.

You are therefore advised that no bond is required from purchasers who purchase state lands upon a deferred payment plan.

Yours very truly,

ALBERT J. GALEN, Attorney General.