SENATE BILL NO. 265

INTRODUCED BY MOHAR

BY REQUEST OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE LANDS

IN THE SENATE

Ir	1 THE	SENATE
January 29, 1985		Introduced and referred to Committee on Local Government.
February 15, 1985		Committee recommend bill do pass. Report adopted.
February 16, 1985		Bill printed and placed on members' desks.
February 18, 1985		Second reading, do pass.
February 19, 1985		Considered correctly engrossed.
February 20, 1985		Third reading, passed. Ayes, 49; Noes, 0.
		Transmitted to House.
II	1 THE	HOUSE
February 27, 1985		Introduced and referred to Committee on Local Government.
March 27, 1985		Committee recommend bill be concurred in as amended. Report adopted.
March 30, 1985		Second reading, concurred in.
April 1, 1985		Third reading, concurred in.
		Returned to Senate with amendments.
II	1 THE	SENATE

Received from House.

April 1, 1985

April 3, 1985

April 5, 1985

Second reading, amendments concurred in.

Third reading, amendments concurred in. Ayes, 45; Noes, 0.

Sent to enrolling.

Reported correctly enrolled.

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5	A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT GENERALLY REVISING THE
6	LAW REGARDING LEASING OF STATE-OWNED CITY AND TOWN LOTS AND
7	LAND VALUABLE FOR COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT; ELIMINATING THE
8	REQUIREMENT THAT CITY AND TOWN LOTS AND COMMERCIAL LANDS BE
9	SUBJECT TO SALE; CLARIFYING THAT COMMERCIAL PROPERTY MAY BE
10	LEASED FOR THE SAME PERIOD AS CITY AND TOWN LOTS; EXTENDING
L1	THE MAXIMUM LEASE PERIOD FROM 25 TO 40 YEARS; AND AMENDING
2	SECTIONS 77-1-204, 77-6-102, 77-6-106, 77-6-109, 77-6-205,
. 3	AND 77-6-503, MCA."
. 4	
.5	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:
. 6	Section 1. Section 77-1-204, MCA, is amended to read:
.7	"77-1-204. Power to sell, lease, or exchange certain
.8	state lands. (1) The board is authorized to lease state
.9	lands for uses other than agriculture, grazing, timber
20	harvest, or mineral production under such terms and
21	conditions which best meet the duties of the board as
22	specified in 77-1-202 and 77-1-203(1). The lease period for
23	such leases, except for power and school site leases, may
24	not be for longer than 25 $\underline{40}$ years.

(2) The board shall have full power and authority to

3	to the state to do so in the highest orderly development and
4	management of state forests and state parks. Said sale
5	lease, or exchange shall not be contrary to the terms of any
6	contract which it has entered into."
7	Section 2. Section 77-6-102, MCA, is amended to read:
8	"77-6-102. beasesofagriculturaland-grazing-lands
9	and-city-lots Surface leases authorized. Under the general
١٥	direction and control of the board, the department shall
11	lease all agricultural and grazing lands and all town lots,
1.2	and city lots, and lands valuable for commercial development
L3	open to leasing upon proper application."
L4	Section 3. Section 77-6-106, MCA, is amended to read:
L 5	"77-6-106. Leased lands subject to later sale. All
L6	leases of agricultural or grazing lands or-town-or-city-lots
L7	shall be upon condition that the board may, in its
18	discretion, offer the land for sale at any regular public
19	sale of state lands held in the county where the land is
20	situated, upon the same terms and in the same manner as land

Section 4. Section 77-6-109, MCA, is amended to read:

"77-6-109. Duration of lease. No lease to agricultural

or grazing lands may be for a period other than 5 or 10

years. Leases for city lots, and town lots, and lands

sell, exchange or lease lands under its jurisdiction by

virtue of 77-1-214 when, in its judgment, it is advantageous

not under lease."

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Section 5. Section 77-6-205, MCA, is amended to read: "77-6-205. Renewal leases. (1) A lessee of state land classed as agricultural, grazing, town lot, or city lot, or land valuable for commercial development who has paid all rentals due from him to the state is entitled to have his lease renewed for a 5--or-10-year period not to exceed the maximum lease period provided in 77-6-109 at any time within 30 days prior to its expiration if no other applications for lease of the land have been received 30 days prior to the expiration of his lease. The renewal shall be at the rental rate provided by law for the renewal period and subject to any other conditions at the time of the renewal imposed by law as terms of the lease. If other applications have been received, the holder of the lease has the preference right to lease the land covered by his former lease by meeting the highest bid made by any other applicant. Applications for lease of lands in this section shall be given preference in the order of their receipt at the office of the department.

(2) The board shall accept the highest bid. If the lessee exercises the preference right and believes the bid to be excessive, he may request an administrative hearing. Such request must contain a statement of reasons why the lessee believes the bid not to be in the state's best

interest and must be accompanied by a deposit equal to 20% of the competitive bid in the case of grazing lands and \$1 2 per acre in the case of agricultural lands. The department 3 shall grant the request for a hearing if it determines that 4 the statement indicates evidence that the bid may not be in 5 the state's best interests. The board may, after the 6 hearing, reduce the rental from the amount bid if the lessee shows that the bid is not in the best interest of the state because it is above community standards for a lease of such 10 land, would cause damage to the tract, or impair its long-term productivity. If the board reduces the bid, it 11 shall set forth its findings and conclusions in writing and 12 13 so inform the lessee and competitive bidder. It is the duty 14 of the board to secure the best lessees possible, so that 15 the state may receive the maximum return possible with the

Section 6. Section 77-6-503, MCA, is amended to read:
"77-6-503. Leases of city lots, town lots, and commercial property. As to town lots, and city lots, and land valuable for commercial development owned by the state, the fair rental value thereof shall be determined from time to time by the department with the approval of the board and a record made thereof, and such town or city property or land valuable for commercial development may be leased at its current appraised rental value for terms not to exceed

least injury occurring to the land."

- 1 25 40 years."
- 2 NEW SECTION. Section 7. Extension of authority. Any
- 3 existing authority of the board of land commissioners or
- 4 department of state lands to make rules on the subject of
- 5 the provisions of this act is extended to the provisions of
- 6 this act.

LC 1425/01 APPROVED BY COMM. ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

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13	AND 77-6-503, MCA."
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15	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:
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18	state lands. (1) The board is authorized to lease state
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21	conditions which best meet the duties of the board as
22	specified in 77-1-202 and 77-1-203(1). The lease period for
23	such leases, except for power and school site leases, may
24	not be for longer than 25 40 years.
25	(2) The board shall have full power and authority to

1	sell, exchange or lease lands under its jurisdiction by
2	virtue of 77-1-214 when, in its judgment, it is advantageous
3	to the state to do so in the highest orderly development and
4	management of state forests and state parks. Said sale,
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9	and-city-lots Surface leases authorized. Under the general
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11	lease all agricultural and grazing lands and all town lots,
12	and city lots, and lands valuable for commercial development
13	open to leasing upon proper application."
14	Section 3. Section 77-6-106, MCA, is amended to read:
15	"77-6-106. Leased lands subject to later sale. All
16	leases of agricultural or grazing lands or-town-or-city-lots
17	shall be upon condition that the board may, in its
18	discretion, offer the land for sale at any regular public

sale of state lands held in the county where the land is

situated, upon the same terms and in the same manner as land

or grazing lands may be for a period other than 5 or 10

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Section 4. Section 77-6-109, MCA, is amended to read:

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SECOND READING

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Section 5. Section 77-6-205, MCA, is amended to read: "77-6-205. Renewal leases. (1) A lessee of state land classed as agricultural, grazing, town lot, or city lot, or land valuable for commercial development who has paid all rentals due from him to the state is entitled to have his lease renewed for a 5--or-10-year period not to exceed the maximum lease period provided in 77-6-109 at any time within 30 days prior to its expiration if no other applications for lease of the land have been received 30 days prior to the expiration of his lease. The renewal shall be at the rental rate provided by law for the renewal period and subject to any other conditions at the time of the renewal imposed by law as terms of the lease. If other applications have been received, the holder of the lease has the preference right to lease the land covered by his former lease by meeting the highest bid made by any other applicant. Applications for lease of lands in this section shall be given preference in the order of their receipt at the office of the department. (2) The board shall accept the highest bid. If the

lessee exercises the preference right and believes the bid to be excessive, he may request an administrative hearing.

Such request must contain a statement of reasons why the lessee believes the bid not to be in the state's best

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Section 6. Section 77-6-503, MCA, is amended to read:

"77-6-503. Leases of city lots, town lots, and commercial property. As to town lots, and city lots, and land valuable for commercial development owned by the state, the fair rental value thereof shall be determined from time to time by the department with the approval of the board and a record made thereof, and such town or city property or land valuable for commercial development may be leased at

its current appraised rental value for terms not to exceed

1 25 40 years."

NEW SECTION. Section 7. Extension of authority. Any existing authority of the board of land commissioners or department of state lands to make rules on the subject of the provisions of this act is extended to the provisions of this act.

1	Sanata	BILL	NO.	215

INTRODUCED BY MORN

BY REQUEST OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE LANDS

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A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT GENERALLY REVISING THE LAW REGARDING LEASING OF STATE-OWNED CITY AND TOWN LOTS AND LAND VALUABLE FOR COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT; ELIMINATING THE REQUIREMENT THAT CITY AND TOWN LOTS AND COMMERCIAL LANDS BE SUBJECT TO SALE; CLARIFYING THAT COMMERCIAL PROPERTY MAY BE LEASED FOR THE SAME PERIOD AS CITY AND TOWN LOTS; EXTENDING THE MAXIMUM LEASE PERIOD FROM 25 TO 40 YEARS; AND AMENDING SECTIONS 77-1-204, 77-6-102, 77-6-106, 77-6-109, 77-6-205, AND 77-6-503, MCA."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. Section 77-1-204, MCA, is amended to read:
"77-1-204. Power to sell, lease, or exchange certain state lands. (1) The board is authorized to lease state lands for uses other than agriculture, grazing, timber harvest, or mineral production under such terms and conditions which best meet the duties of the board as specified in 77-1-202 and 77-1-203(1). The lease period for such leases, except for power and school site leases, may not be for longer than 25 40 years.

(2) The board shall have full power and authority to



sell, exchange or lease lands under its jurisdiction by virtue of 77-1-214 when, in its judgment, it is advantageous to the state to do so in the highest orderly development and management of state forests and state parks. Said sale, lease, or exchange shall not be contrary to the terms of any contract which it has entered into."

Section 2. Section 77-6-102, MCA, is amended to read:

"77-6-102. beases--of--agricultural--and-grazing-lands and-city-lets Surface leases authorized. Under the general

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Section 3. Section 77-6-106, MCA, is amended to read:

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leases of agricultural or grazing lands or-town-or-city-lots

shall be upon condition that the board may, in its

discretion, offer the land for sale at any regular public

sale of state lands held in the county where the land is

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Section 6. Section 77-6-503, MCA, is amended to read:

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LC 1425/01

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STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

Page 1 of 2

March 26, 19 85

MR. SPEAKER:		
We, your committee on	LOCAL GOVERNMENT	
having had under consideration	SENATE	Bill No. 265
THIRD reading copy (BLUE colo)	

REVISES LAW RELATING TO LEASING OF CERTAIN STATE-OWNED LAND.

BE AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:

1. Title, line 8. Strike: "CITY AND TOWN LOTS AND COMMERCIAL LANDS BE" Insert: "STATE LEASES OF LAND ARE"

2. Title, line 12.
Strike: "77-6-106,"

3. Title, line 13. Following: "MCA" Insert: "; REPEALING SECTION 77-6-106, MCA"

CONTINUED

Chairman.

SB 265

Page 2 of 2

March 26,

4. Page 2, line 14 through 21. Strike: section 3 in its entirety Renumber: subsequent sections

5. Page 5. Following: line 1
Insert: "NEW SECTION. Section 6. Repealer. Section 77-6-106, MCA, is repealed."

AND, AS SO AMENDED, BE CONCURRED IN

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9	STATE LEASES OF LAND ARE SUBJECT TO SALE; CLARIFYING THAT
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.2	25 TO 40 YEARS; AND AMENDING SECTIONS 77-1-204, 77-6-102,
.3	77-6-106, 77-6-109, 77-6-205, AND 77-6-503, MCA; AND
4	REPEALING SECTION 77-6-106, MCA."
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1 its current appraised rental value for terms not to exceed
2 25 40 years."

3 NEW SECTION. SECTION 6. REPEALER. SECTION 77-6-106,

MCA, IS REPEALED.

NEW SECTION. Section 7. Extension of authority. Any existing authority of the board of land commissioners or department of state lands to make rules on the subject of the provisions of this act is extended to the provisions of this act.