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*SB* BILL NO. 154  
*Foster* *Jumper*

INTRODUCED BY

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT INCREASING THE NUMBER OF ACRES OF STATE LAND THAT THE BOARD OF LAND COMMISSIONERS MAY SELL OR LEASE FOR USE AS A SCHOOL SITE TO 20 ACRES FOR AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND 50 ACRES FOR A HIGH SCHOOL; AND AMENDING SECTION 20-6-621, MCA."

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

**Section 1.** Section 20-6-621, MCA, is amended to read:

**"20-6-621. Selection of school sites, approval election, and lease of state lands.** (1) The trustees of a district may select the sites for school buildings or for other school purposes, but the selection must first be approved by the qualified electors of the district before a contract for the purchase of a site is entered into by the trustees. ~~except~~ However, the trustees may purchase or otherwise acquire property contiguous to an existing site that is in use for school purposes without a site approval election. The trustees may take an option on a site prior to the site approval election.

(2) The election for the approval of a site must be called under the provisions of 20-20-201 and must be conducted in the manner prescribed by this title for school elections. An elector ~~who~~ may vote at a school site election if the elector is qualified to vote under the provisions of 20-20-301. If a majority of those voting at the election approve the site selection, the trustees may purchase the site. A site approval election is not required when the site was specifically identified in an election at which an additional levy or the issuance of bonds was approved for the purchase of the site.

(3) Any site for a school building or other building of the district that is selected or purchased by the trustees must:

- (a) be in a place that is convenient, accessible, and suitable;
- (b) comply with the minimum size and other requirements prescribed by the department of public health and human services; and
- (c) comply with the statewide building regulations, if any, promulgated by the department of commerce.

