

STATE OF NEW YORK

8977

IN SENATE

May 3, 2022

Introduced by Sen. SKOUFIS -- (at request of the Office of General Services) -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Investigations and Government Operations

AN ACT to amend the public lands law, in relation to the transfer of unappropriated state lands for mental health, developmental disability, park, recreation, playground, reforestation, public education, public safety, street or highway purposes

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. The section heading and subdivision 1 of section 34 of the
2 public lands law, as amended by chapter 703 of the laws of 1994, are
3 amended to read as follows:

4 Transfer of unappropriated state lands for mental health, [~~mental~~
5 ~~retardation~~] developmental disability, park, recreation, playground,
6 reforestation, public education, public safety, street, or highway
7 purposes. 1. [~~Such~~] The commissioner of general services may, from time
8 to time, transfer and convey to a city, incorporated village, town, or
9 county, or, as defined in section one hundred of the general municipal
10 law, to a political subdivision, fire company, or voluntary ambulance
11 service, in consideration of one dollar to be paid to the state of New
12 York, and on such terms and conditions as such commissioner may impose,
13 a part or all of any parcel or parcels of unappropriated state lands
14 upon certification that such parcel or parcels are useful for local
15 mental health facilities, [~~mental-retardation~~] developmental disability
16 facilities, park, recreation, playground, reforestation, public educa-
17 tion, public safety, street, or highway purposes, and that they will be
18 properly improved and maintained for one or more of such purposes and
19 provided that this disposition of such parcel or parcels is not other-
20 wise prohibited. Certification shall be evidenced by a formal request
21 from the [~~board-of-estimate,~~] common council, village board, town board
22 or county board of supervisors, or other local governing body authorized
23 by law to adopt local laws or ordinances or to otherwise initiate such
24 request and certification, setting forth in detail the parcel or parcels
25 to be released, transferred and conveyed and the availability and

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
[-] is old law to be omitted.

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1 usefulness of such parcel or parcels for one or more of such purposes.
2 In the city of New York however, certification shall be evidenced by a
3 formal request from the mayor. In the event that lands transferred under
4 the provisions of this section are not properly improved and maintained
5 for one or more of the purposes contemplated by this section by the
6 city, village, town [~~or~~], county, political subdivision, fire company,
7 or voluntary ambulance service to which they were transferred, the title
8 thereto shall revert to the people of the state of New York, and the
9 [~~attorney-general~~] attorney general may institute an action in the
10 supreme court for a judgment declaring a revesting of such title in the
11 state. [~~Such~~] The commissioner may also transfer any unappropriated
12 state lands to the office of parks, recreation and historic preservation
13 or the department of environmental conservation, upon the application of
14 the commissioner thereof indicating that such unappropriated state lands
15 are required for state park purposes within the area of jurisdiction of
16 such office or department.

17 § 2. This act shall take effect immediately.