

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 58th Legislature (2021)

3 HOUSE BILL 1020

By: Worthen

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5  
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to public lands; amending 64 O.S.  
8 2011, Section 1002, as amended by Section 1, Chapter  
9 70, O.S.L. 2013 (64 O.S. Supp. 2020, Section 1002),  
10 which relates to Commissioners of the Land Office  
11 Modernization Act; modifying powers and duties of the  
12 Commissioners of the Land Office; requiring notice to  
13 certain landowners when state school lands are  
14 recategorized; and providing an effective date.

15 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

16 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 64 O.S. 2011, Section 1002, as  
17 amended by Section 1, Chapter 70, O.S.L. 2013 (64 O.S. Supp. 2020,  
18 Section 1002), is amended to read as follows:

19 Section 1002. A. In order that the state school lands may be  
20 administered in a manner to assure their preservation as well as the  
21 appreciation of the trust estate and the maximum return from the use  
22 of state school lands for the support and maintenance of the common  
23 schools of the state, the Commissioners of the Land Office, as  
24 trustees of the state school lands, are hereby authorized and  
empowered to:

1 1. Categorize the state school lands as agricultural or  
2 commercial according to the use which the Commissioners of the Land  
3 Office determine from time to time to be most beneficial to the  
4 interest of the present and future beneficiaries of the state,  
5 subject to the provisions of subsection B of this section;

6 2. Sell, at public auction after appraisalment, the surface  
7 interest in any state school land categorized by the Commissioners  
8 of the Land Office to be excess or when determined to be in the best  
9 interest of the trust;

10 3. Institute projects to develop and improve those state school  
11 lands which are categorized as commercial lands;

12 4. Acquire by exchange, purchase, gift or grant all real  
13 property and to acquire by exchange, purchase, gift or grant all  
14 personal property necessary for the purpose of utilizing trust lands  
15 for the development of commercial and agricultural leases to  
16 maximize trust income for present and future beneficiaries; and

17 5. Exchange any real property of the trust for other real  
18 property of equal or greater value to maximize income for present  
19 and future beneficiaries, in accordance with and under the safeguard  
20 of trust requirements.

21 B. If the Commissioners of the Land Office determine it is  
22 beneficial to recategorize state school land in accordance with  
23 paragraph 1 of subsection A of this section, and the state school  
24 land is located outside of the corporate limits of a town or

1 municipality, the Commissioners of the Land Office shall send a  
2 notice of the recategorization by certified mail to each person who  
3 owns land within the same section as the state school land that is  
4 being recategorized.

5 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2021.

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