

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2020 REGULAR SESSION

Committee Substitute

for

House Bill 2696

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[Originating in the Committee on Government

Organization, January 13, 2020.]

1 A BILL to amend and reenact §14-1-20 and §14-1-21 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as
2 amended, all relating to creating an additional index system for state-owned lands;
3 providing that the county courts submit a list of lands the state obtained to the Auditor;
4 providing that the Auditor create an index system; providing that the Auditor create a
5 standard naming system; and providing for rule-making authority relating to the index
6 system.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 1. CLAIMS DUE THE STATE.

§14-1-20. Lands of state — List by clerk.

1 The clerks of the county courts shall transmit to the Auditor a list of all lands in their
2 respective counties ~~purchased~~ obtained by the state, under the provisions of §14-1-16 of this
3 code, and set forth in such list all the information which they can obtain in relation to the lands
4 mentioned therein. For each tract of land or lot so mentioned by any clerk of the county court, he
5 or she shall receive \$1 from the Treasury.

§14-1-21. Lands of state — Registration by Auditor.

1 (a) The Auditor shall, in a book kept for the purpose, register all ~~such lands as are required~~
2 ~~to be embraced~~ in the lists ~~mentioned~~ described in §14-1-20 of this code, describing when, how,
3 and of whom, they were obtained, their situation, quantity and the title thereto, together with the
4 price paid therefor by the state.

5 (b) The Auditor shall create an index system to reference lands purchased by the state,
6 similar to those created and maintained by the counties of this state. The Auditor shall create a
7 standard naming system to easily cross reference lands purchased by the state in the county
8 indexes. The naming system, at a minimum, must include:

9 (1) The state agency purchasing the lands; and

10 (2) The county or counties where the land is located.

- 11 (c) The Auditor shall have rule-making authority relating to this index system under §29A-
12 3-1 et seq. of this code. Any deed for state lands purchased after December 31, 2020, shall be
13 recorded pursuant to the provisions of this section.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to create a naming convention to records lands owned by the state in an index system for easy cross-reference to county indexes.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from a heading or the present law and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.