

# **WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE**

## **2020 REGULAR SESSION**

**Committee Substitute**

**for**

**House Bill 2696**

BY DELEGATE HOWELL, BIBBY, PHILLIPS, SYPOLT, CADLE,

AZINGER, D. JEFFRIES, AND HOTT

[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.