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SENATE BILL 5924

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State of Washington

65th Legislature

2017 Regular Session

By Senators Fain and Keiser

Read first time 04/13/17. Referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

1 AN ACT Relating to exchanging charitable, educational, penal, and  
2 reformatory institutions trust lands for community and technical  
3 college forest reserve lands; amending RCW 79.02.420; and declaring  
4 an emergency.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

6 **Sec. 1.** RCW 79.02.420 and 2003 c 334 s 225 are each amended to  
7 read as follows:

8 (1) The legislature finds that the state's community and  
9 technical colleges need a dedicated source of revenue to augment  
10 other sources of capital improvement funding. The intent of this  
11 section is to ensure that the forestland purchased under section 310,  
12 chapter 16, Laws of 1990 1st ex. sess. and known as the community and  
13 technical college forest reserve land base, is managed in perpetuity  
14 and in the same manner as state forestlands for sustainable  
15 commercial forestry and multiple use of lands consistent with RCW  
16 79.10.120. These lands will also be managed to provide an outdoor  
17 education and experience area for organized groups. The lands will  
18 provide a source of revenue for the long-term capital improvement  
19 needs of the state community and technical college system.

20 (2) There has been increasing pressure to convert forestlands  
21 within areas of the state subject to population growth. Loss of

1 forestland in urbanizing areas reduces the production of forest  
2 products and the available supply of open space, watershed  
3 protection, habitat, and recreational opportunities. The land known  
4 as the community and technical college forest reserve land base is  
5 forever reserved from sale. However, the timber and other products on  
6 the land may be sold, or the land may be leased in the same manner  
7 and for the same purposes as authorized for state granted lands if  
8 the department finds the sale or lease to be in the best interest of  
9 this forest reserve land base and approves the terms and conditions  
10 of the sale or lease.

11 (3) The land exchange and acquisition powers provided in RCW  
12 79.17.020 may be used by the department to reposition land within the  
13 community and technical college forest reserve land base consistent  
14 with subsection (1) of this section.

15 (4) By June 30, 2019, the department must exchange land within  
16 the community and technical college forest reserve for land of equal  
17 value held for the benefit of charitable, educational, penal, and  
18 reformatory institutions that is currently leased to certain  
19 community and technical colleges under section 1, chapter 168, Laws  
20 of 1985 and section 1, chapter 198, Laws of 2004. The department must  
21 transfer the community and technical college forest reserve land that  
22 the department acquires in the exchange out of the community and  
23 technical college forest reserve, and the department must transfer  
24 ownership of that land to the state board for community and technical  
25 colleges to be managed for educational purposes.

26 (5) Up to twenty-five percent of the revenue from these lands, as  
27 determined by the board, will be deposited in the forest development  
28 account to reimburse the forest development account for expenditures  
29 from the account for management of these lands.

30 ~~((+5))~~ (6) The community college forest reserve account, created  
31 under section 310, chapter 16, Laws of 1990 1st ex. sess., is renamed  
32 the community and technical college forest reserve account. The  
33 remainder of the revenue from these lands must be deposited in the  
34 community and technical college forest reserve account. Money in the  
35 account may be appropriated by the legislature for the capital  
36 improvement needs of the state community and technical college system  
37 or to acquire additional forest reserve lands.

38 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. This act is necessary for the immediate  
39 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of

1 the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes  
2 effect immediately.

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