

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
PUBLIC ACT SUMMARY



PA 14-112—SB 271

Government Administration and Elections Committee

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE'S AUTHORITY TO PURCHASE
AND TO RECEIVE DONATIONS OF REAL PROPERTY**

SUMMARY: This act makes several minor changes to the laws on certain property acquisitions by the state. It allows the state, through the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) and with the governor's and Office of Policy and Management (OPM) secretary's approval, to accept real property, interests in real property, and other rights in land or water or interests in such rights by gift, devise, or exchange.

Under existing law, the state cannot acquire land by gift without the attorney general's approval. The act specifies that this prohibition includes devises or exchanges of real property, interests in real property, and other rights in land or water or interests in such rights. It also specifies that the attorney general's review is limited to legal sufficiency. It retains an existing provision that allows the state treasurer, without approval by another official, to accept gifts or devises of land to be used by the state Military Department.

The act allows the DAS commissioner to purchase or acquire real property, interests in real property, and other rights in land or water or interests in such rights on behalf of any state agency not itself authorized to make the purchase or acquisition. Under prior law, DAS could undertake these actions only (1) on behalf of trustees of state institutions, the State Board of Education (SBE), and the correction commissioner and (2) when the legislature was not in session. By law, the OPM secretary, attorney general, and State Properties Review Board (SPRB) must approve these purchases and acquisitions.

By law, DAS may also, with SPRB's approval, give or obtain an option on any land or interest not under the control of trustees of state institutions, SBE, or the correction commissioner. The act eliminates provisions that (1) limited this authority to periods when the legislature was not in session and (2) set a deadline for exercising this option of August 15 following the next legislative session.

The act also makes technical changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

OLR Tracking: TA:RP:PF:ro