

By: Ogden

S.B. No. 1883

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

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AN ACT

relating to the lands managed and controlled by the board of regents of The Texas A&M University System.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 85.25, Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 85.25. LANDS AND MINERAL INTERESTS. (a) The board is vested with the sole and exclusive management and control of lands and mineral interests under its jurisdiction and that may be acquired by it.

(b) The board may grant, sell, lease, or otherwise dispose of the lands and mineral interests under its jurisdiction that do not comprise any portion of the original main campus of Texas A&M University to other units or agencies of government, or to any individual, group of individuals, corporation, or other entity under terms and conditions it deems best in the public interest.

(c) (1) Except as authorized by existing law, any grant, sale, or lease of the surface estate of the original main campus property must be approved by Act of the legislature.

(2) The board is hereby authorized to grant [~~unto~~] The Former Students Association of Texas A&M University a lease of surface area not to exceed five acres on the original main campus for use by said association to construct and occupy a building for use consistent with the association's stated purposes.

1           (3) The board is further authorized to grant to the  
2 Texas A&M [~~University Development~~] Foundation a lease of surface  
3 area not to exceed five acres on the original main campus for use by  
4 the foundation to construct and occupy a building for use  
5 consistent with the foundation's stated purposes.

6           (4) The board is authorized to enter into an  
7 agreement, including a ground lease, for construction of an office,  
8 laboratory, and classroom building to be funded by a donor, on a  
9 site not to exceed five acres on the original main campus. The  
10 agreement shall provide that title to the building shall be  
11 transferred to the board upon completion.

12           (d) For the purposes of this section, the original main  
13 campus of Texas A&M University comprises that certain 748 acres,  
14 more or less, bounded by Texas Avenue, George Bush Drive, Wellborn  
15 Road, and University Drive in College Station, Texas.

16           (e) Proceeds received from the grant, sale, lease, or other  
17 disposition of surface interests covered by this section may be  
18 retained in local funds subject to disposition by the board for any  
19 lawful purpose.

20           (f) This section is cumulative of existing statutes  
21 relating to the authority of the board to lease for oil, gas,  
22 sulphur, mineral ore, and other mineral developments, and otherwise  
23 to buy, sell, and lease certain lands under its jurisdiction and  
24 supervision.

25           (g) This section does not cover any lands or minerals held  
26 by the general land office.

27           SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives

1 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
2 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
3 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
4 Act takes effect September 1, 2005.