

**SENATE BILL NO. 88**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY SENATOR STEDMAN

Introduced: 3/10/17

Referred: Resources, Finance

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1   **"An Act authorizing a land exchange with the federal government in which certain**  
2   **Alaska mental health trust land is exchanged for certain national forest land and**  
3   **relating to the costs of the exchange; and providing for an effective date."**

4   **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

5       \* **Section 1.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section  
6   to read:

7           PURPOSE. In accordance with the Alaska Mental Health Trust Land Exchange Act of  
8   2017 or federal Act with similar terms, the purposes of this Act are to

9           (1) authorize the Department of Natural Resources, acting on behalf of the  
10   Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority, to exchange mental health trust land managed by the  
11   Department of Natural Resources for United States Forest Service land of equal or  
12   comparable value;

13           (2) aid the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority in achieving its goals and  
14   objectives, including increasing trust revenue;

1 (3) contribute to the economic health of communities in Southeast Alaska; and

2 (4) preserve land adjacent to the communities of Ketchikan, Petersburg,  
3 Wrangell, Sitka, Juneau, and Meyers Chuck.

4 \* **Sec. 2.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to  
5 read:

6 EXCHANGE OF MENTAL HEALTH TRUST LAND FOR FEDERAL LAND. (a)  
7 Notwithstanding AS 38.05.801, AS 38.50, or any other provision of law, and subject to the  
8 provisions of this Act, the Alaska Mental Health Trust Land Exchange Act of 2017 or federal  
9 Act with similar terms, and any valid existing rights, reservations, rights-of-way, or other  
10 encumbrances in, to, or on land conveyed under this Act, the Department of Natural  
11 Resources may convey all right, title, and interest of certain mental health trust land described  
12 in sec. 3(a) of this Act to the federal government in exchange for the conveyance of certain  
13 federal land described in sec. 3(b) of this Act.

14 (b) The Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority shall pay all costs of the exchange,  
15 including

16 (1) the costs incurred completing the land surveys, appraisals, and  
17 environmental reviews described in the Alaska Mental Health Trust Land Exchange Act of  
18 2017 or federal Act with similar terms; and

19 (2) upon request of the United States Secretary of Agriculture, the costs of  
20 federal agency staff, additional federal agency staff, or third-party contractors hired by the  
21 federal government to effect the exchange as described in the Alaska Mental Health Trust  
22 Land Exchange Act of 2017 or federal Act with similar terms.

23 (c) All surveys required to complete the exchange shall be conducted in the manner  
24 described in the Alaska Mental Health Trust Land Exchange Act of 2017 or federal Act with  
25 similar terms.

26 (d) In accordance with the Alaska Mental Health Trust Land Exchange Act of 2017 or  
27 federal Act with similar terms, conveyance of both federal and mental health trust land under  
28 this Act is subject to

29 (1) reciprocal easements on existing roads as necessary to access the parcels  
30 that each party acquires in the exchange; the easements must also provide for public access;  
31 and

(2) conservation and research easements and related land use limitations described in the Alaska Mental Health Trust Land Exchange Act of 2017 or federal Act with similar terms that

(A) provide a buffer adjacent to the Ketchikan landfill;

(B) allow for the completion of United States Forest Service research on designated study plots; and

(C) protect certain karst areas of concern.

(e) The Department of Natural Resources may enter into a cost-share agreement to cover the cost of road maintenance with respect to any reciprocal road easements exchanged under (d)(1) of this section.

\* **Sec. 3.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to read:

LAND TO BE EXCHANGED. (a) Subject to the provisions of this Act, the following mental health trust land, as generally depicted on maps one through six and 10, comprising a total of approximately 18,313 acres, may be exchanged for the federal land described in (b) of this section:

(1) land generally depicted as parcel K-1 on map 1, comprising approximately 1,878 acres;

(2) land generally depicted as parcel K-2 on map 1, comprising approximately 707 acres;

(3) land generally depicted as parcel K-3 on map 1, comprising approximately 901 acres, including the depicted conservation easement area;

(4) land generally depicted as parcel K-4A on map 1, comprising approximately 3,180 acres;

(5) land generally depicted as parcel P-1A on map 2, comprising approximately 3,174 acres;

(6) land generally depicted as parcel P-1B on map 2, comprising approximately 144 acres;

(7) land generally depicted as parcel P-2B on map 2, comprising approximately 181 acres;

(8) land generally depicted as parcel P-3B on map 2, comprising

1 approximately 92 acres;

2 (9) land generally depicted as parcel P-4 on map 2, comprising approximately  
3 280 acres;

4 (10) land generally depicted as parcel W-1 on map 3, comprising  
5 approximately 204 acres;

6 (11) land generally depicted as parcel W-2 on map 3, comprising  
7 approximately 104 acres;

8 (12) land generally depicted as parcel W-3 on map 3, comprising  
9 approximately 63 acres;

10 (13) land generally depicted as parcel W-4 on map 3, comprising  
11 approximately 700 acres;

12 (14) land generally depicted as parcel S-2 on map 4, comprising  
13 approximately 284 acres;

14 (15) land generally depicted as parcel S-3 on map 4, comprising  
15 approximately 109 acres;

16 (16) land generally depicted as parcel S-4 on map 4, comprising  
17 approximately 26 acres;

18 (17) land generally depicted as parcel MC-1 on map 5, comprising  
19 approximately 169 acres;

20 (18) land generally depicted as parcel J-1B on map 6, comprising  
21 approximately 2,261 acres;

22 (19) land generally depicted as parcel J-1A on map 6, comprising  
23 approximately 428 acres; and

24 (20) land generally depicted as parcel NB-1 on map 10, comprising  
25 approximately 3,428 acres.

26 (b) Subject to the provisions of this Act, the mental health trust land described in (a)  
27 of this section may be exchanged, in the manner provided in secs. 4 and 5 of this Act, for the  
28 following United States Forest Service land, comprising a total of approximately 20,645  
29 acres, as generally depicted on maps seven through nine:

30 (1) land generally depicted as the "Naukati Phase 1" parcel on map 8,  
31 comprising approximately 2,400 acres;

(2) land generally depicted as the "West Naukati" parcel on map 8, comprising approximately 4,182 acres;

(3) land generally depicted as the "North Naukati" parcel on map 8, comprising approximately 1,311 acres;

(4) land generally depicted as the "East Naukati/2016 Naukati addition" parcel on map 8, comprising approximately 1,132 acres;

(5) land generally depicted as the "Central Naukati" parcel on map 8, comprising approximately 1,858 acres;

(6) land generally depicted as the "Hollis" parcel on map 9, comprising approximately 1,538 acres; and

(7) land generally depicted as the "Shelter Cove Area" parcel on map 7, comprising approximately 8,224 acres.

(c) The Department of Natural Resources may, by mutual agreement with the United States Secretary of Agriculture, correct minor errors in any map, acreage estimate, or description of land subject to exchange under this section.

(d) If there is a conflict between a map, acreage estimate, or description of land subject to exchange under this section, the map shall be given effect unless the Department of Natural Resources and the United States Secretary of Agriculture mutually agree otherwise.

(e) In this section, "map" means the applicable map prepared by the Alaska Region of the United States Forest Service entitled "Alaska Mental Health Trust Act of 2017," numbered 1 - 10, and dated as revised March 3, 2017.

\* **Sec. 4.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to read:

LAND EXCHANGE PHASES. (a) Subject to the time limitations of the Alaska Mental Health Trust Land Exchange Act of 2017 or federal Act with similar terms, the land described in sec. 3(a) and (b) of this Act shall be exchanged in two phases, as described in this section.

(b) Subject to sec. 5 of this Act, if the United States Secretary of Agriculture has conveyed the parcel of federal land described in sec. 3(b)(1) of this Act to the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority, the Department of Natural Resources shall convey the parcels of trust land described in sec. 3(a)(1) and (2) of this Act to the federal government.

1 (c) Land conveyed under (b) of this section shall be appraised before the land  
2 described in (e) of this section.

3 (d) Notwithstanding sec. 5 of this Act, any cash equalization payment due under sec.  
4 5 of this Act shall be

5 (1) deferred until the completion of land conveyances under (e) of this section;  
6 and

7 (2) debited or credited, as appropriate, to any final land or cash equalization  
8 that may be required under sec. 5 of this Act from either party upon completion of the  
9 conveyances under (e) of this section.

10 (e) Subject to sec. 5 of this Act, if the United States Secretary of Agriculture has  
11 conveyed the parcels of federal land described in sec. 3(b)(2) - (7) of this Act to the Alaska  
12 Mental Health Trust Authority, the Department of Natural Resources shall convey the parcels  
13 of trust land described in sec. 3(a)(3) - (20) of this Act to the federal government.

14 \* **Sec. 5.** The uncoded law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to  
15 read:

16 EQUAL VALUE OF LAND AND OTHER CONSIDERATION EXCHANGED. (a)  
17 The value of the mental health trust land and other consideration exchanged for federal land  
18 and other consideration under this Act shall be equalized under this section when the  
19 Department of Natural Resources completes the land exchange described in sec. 4(e) of this  
20 Act.

21 (b) If the final appraised value of all of the federal land described in sec. 3(b) of this  
22 Act exceeds the final appraised value of all of the mental health trust land described in sec.  
23 3(a) of this Act, the Department of Natural Resources may, in consultation with the United  
24 States Secretary of Agriculture,

25 (1) consent to the removal of one or more parcels of federal land described in  
26 sec. 3(b) of this Act from the exchange, beginning in the reverse order that the parcels are  
27 listed under that subsection until, to the maximum extent practicable, approximate equal value  
28 is achieved in the exchange; and

29 (2) equalize any remaining difference in value by  
30 (A) removing a portion of a parcel of the federal land described in sec.  
31 3(b) of this Act from the exchange;

1 (B) making a cash payment to the federal government that is equal to  
 2 the difference in value; or

3 (C) using both methods described in (A) and (B) of this paragraph.

4 (c) If the final appraised value of all of the mental health trust land described in sec.  
 5 3(a) of this Act exceeds the final appraised value of all of the federal land described in sec.  
 6 3(b) of this Act, the Department of Natural Resources may, in consultation with the United  
 7 States Secretary of Agriculture,

8 (1) remove one or more parcels of mental health trust land described in sec.  
 9 3(a) of this Act from the exchange, beginning in the reverse order that the parcels are listed  
 10 under that subsection, until, to the maximum extent practicable, approximate equal value is  
 11 achieved in the exchange; and

12 (2) equalize any remaining difference in value by

13 (A) removing a portion of a parcel of the mental health trust land  
 14 described in sec. 3(a) of this Act from the exchange;

15 (B) accepting a cash payment from the federal government that is  
 16 equal to the difference in value; or

17 (C) using both methods described in (A) and (B) of this paragraph.

18 (d) If a portion of a parcel of the federal land or the mental health trust land to be  
 19 conveyed under sec. 3 of this Act cannot be conveyed by the federal government or the  
 20 Department of Natural Resources because of the presence of hazardous material,

21 (1) that portion may be removed from the exchange; and

22 (2) the final values of the land exchanged under this Act shall be equalized  
 23 under this section.

24 (e) To expedite completion of the exchange, if the values of the federal land and the  
 25 mental health trust land cannot be exactly equalized under this section, the Department of  
 26 Natural Resources may, if the public officer in the Department of Natural Resources who is  
 27 responsible for the management of the land assets of the Alaska Mental Health Trust  
 28 Authority under AS 38.05.801 determines that it is in the best interests of the trust established  
 29 under the Alaska Mental Health Enabling Act of 1956, P.L. 84-830, 70 Stat. 709, waive any  
 30 cash equalization payment due from the federal government under (c)(2) of this section.

31 (f) All land exchanged under this Act shall be appraised

1 (1) in accordance with nationally recognized appraisal standards, including the  
2 Uniform Appraisal Standards for Federal Land Acquisitions and the Uniform Standards of  
3 Professional Appraisal Practice; and

4 (2) subject to any appraisal instructions issued by the United States Secretary  
5 of Agriculture under the Alaska Mental Health Trust Land Exchange Act of 2017 or federal  
6 Act with similar terms.

7 (g) Once the value of a parcel of federal land or mental health trust land subject to  
8 exchange under sec. 3 of this Act is approved as the final appraised value of the parcel by  
9 both the federal government and the Department of Natural Resources under this section, the  
10 state may not require the land to be reappraised or revalued.

11 \* **Sec. 6.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to  
12 read:

13 **CONDITIONAL EFFECT; DUTY TO NOTIFY.** (a) This Act takes effect only if

14 (1) the Alaska Mental Health Trust Land Exchange Act of 2017 or federal Act  
15 with similar terms is passed by the 115th United States Congress and enacted into law;

16 (2) on or before January 1, 2024, the public officer in the Department of  
17 Natural Resources who is responsible for the management of the land assets of the Alaska  
18 Mental Health Trust Authority under AS 38.05.801 determines that the exchange authorized  
19 by this Act is in the best interests of the trust established under the Alaska Mental Health  
20 Enabling Act of 1956, P.L. 84-830, 70 Stat. 709; and

21 (3) on or before January 1, 2024, the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority  
22 approves the exchange authorized by this Act.

23 (b) The chair of the board of trustees of the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority  
24 shall certify in writing to the lieutenant governor and the revisor of statutes if, on or before  
25 January 1, 2024, the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority determines that the conditions in  
26 (a) of this section have occurred.

27 \* **Sec. 7.** If, under sec. 6 of this Act, this Act takes effect, it takes effect on the day after the  
28 date on which the chair of the board of trustees of the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority  
29 makes the certification to the revisor of statutes under sec. 6 of this Act.