

2026 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 518

BY SENATOR FOIL

PUBLIC LANDS. Allows Louisiana State University and Agricultural & Mechanical College to buy and sell certain real estate. (8/1/26)

1 AN ACT
2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:3351(A)(9), relative to the transfer of certain property; to
3 provide for the sale of immovable property by state agencies; to provide for
4 exceptions; to provide for postsecondary education management board authority; to
5 provide for boards of supervisors; to provide for Louisiana State University and
6 Agricultural and Mechanical College; to provide for the purchase, sale, transfer, or
7 exchange of property; to provide for geographic boundaries; to provide for
8 consideration; to provide for fair market value; to provide for notice; to provide for
9 ratification; and to provide for related matters.

10 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

11 Section 1. R.S. 17:3351(A)(9) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

12 §3351. General powers, duties, and functions of postsecondary education
13 management boards

14 A. Subject only to the powers of the Board of Regents specifically
15 enumerated in Article VIII, Section 5 of the Constitution of Louisiana, and as
16 otherwise provided by law, each postsecondary system management board as a body
17 corporate shall have authority to exercise power necessary to supervise and manage

1 the day-to-day operations of institutions of postsecondary education under its
2 control, including but not limited to the following:

3 * * *

4 (9)(a) Sell, transfer, or exchange land or other property not needed for
5 university purposes, in accordance with law.

6 (b) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, including those
7 in Title 39 and Title 41, the Board of Supervisors of Louisiana State University
8 and Agricultural and Mechanical College, hereafter referred to as the "board",
9 shall have the authority to purchase, sell, transfer, or exchange immovable
10 property on behalf of Louisiana State University and Agricultural and
11 Mechanical College, provided all of the following conditions are met:

12 (i) The property is entirely located within East Baton Rouge Parish.

13 (ii) The entirety of the property is not more than one mile from another
14 property owned by or under the administrative control of Louisiana State
15 University and Agricultural and Mechanical College.

16 (iii) For property being acquired, the purchase price or other
17 consideration for the property is not more than the appraised fair market value
18 of the property.

19 (iv) For property being alienated, the purchase price or other
20 consideration for the property is not less than the appraised fair market value.

21 (v) The board shall provide to the state land office written notice of any
22 sale, transfer, or exchange performed under the provisions of this
23 Subparagraph within five business days of the transaction.

24 (vi) Any sale, transfer, or exchange performed with the approval of the
25 board and in accordance with, and prior to the effective date of, this
26 Subparagraph is hereby ratified.

27 (vii) The authority granted in this Subparagraph shall terminate on
28 August 1, 2028.

29 * * *

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Senate Legislative Services. The keyword, summary, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

DIGEST

SB 518 Engrossed

2026 Regular Session

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Present law provides for the transfer of surplus immovable property to the division of administration. Further provides that the commissioner of administration administers lands and facilities owned or leased by the state and is an essential party to all transactions involving such properties.

Proposed law provides exceptions to present law for certain transactions involving immovable property performed by the board of supervisors of LSU-Baton Rouge.

Present law provides for the general powers, duties, and functions of postsecondary education management boards, including the power to buy, sell, transfer, or exchange property. Further provides that LSU-BR is the state's premier flagship university.

Proposed law retains present law and authorizes the board of supervisors of LSU-BR to buy, sell, transfer, or exchange immovable property when the transaction meets certain criteria.

Proposed law requires that the property be located within East Baton Rouge Parish and no more than one mile from another property owned by LSU-BR; that for acquisitions, consideration be no more than fair market value; that for alienations, consideration be no less than fair market value; and that the board notify the state land office of the transaction in writing within five business days. Proposed law further provides that the authority granted in proposed law shall terminate on August 1, 2028.

Proposed law ratifies previous transaction done in accordance with proposed law.

Effective August 1, 2026.

(Amends R.S. 17:3351(A)(9))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Education to the original bill

1. Changes the geographic area surrounding the campus from one and one-half miles to one mile.
2. Requires special authorization to sunset in two years.