

5518-S

Sponsor(s): Senate Committee on Natural Resources, Energy & Water  
(originally sponsored by Senators Hargrove, Morton, Doumit,  
Honeyford, Hale and Mulliken)

Brief Description: Limiting the authority of state entities to  
purchase land strictly for conservation purposes.

**SB 5518-S - DIGEST**

(DIGEST OF PROPOSED 1ST SUBSTITUTE)

Provides that a state agency or department may not purchase in fee simple a privately owned parcel of land in excess of five contiguous acres in any county for habitat conservation, ecosystem preservation, wetland mitigation, or endangered species protection except under the provisions of this act.

Authorizes an agency to purchase more than five contiguous acres under the provisions of this act if: (1) The appropriate county legislative authority or authorities have been given the opportunity to hold a public hearing on the transaction; and

(2) Following the county legislative authorities hearing, the legislature takes specific action directing the agency to make the purchase.

Provides that, when land is purchased by a state agency or department, the agency or department must post a bond or otherwise financially guarantee that the land will be managed for the control of noxious weeds.