

**No. R-229. Joint resolution approving a land exchange or sale in the town of Plymouth and a land transfer in the town of Grand Isle.**

(J.R.H.11)

Offered by: Committee on Corrections and Institutions

Whereas, 29 V.S.A. § 166(b) authorizes the Commissioner of Buildings and General Services to sell state lands with the approval of the General Assembly, and

Whereas, 10 V.S.A. § 2606(b) authorizes the Commissioner of Forests, Parks and Recreation to exchange or lease certain lands with the approval of the General Assembly, and

Whereas, the General Assembly considers the following actions to be in the best interest of the State, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

First: That notwithstanding the provisions of 29 V.S.A. § 166(b), the General Assembly authorizes the Department of Buildings and General Services, in consultation with the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation, to sell a 38-acre portion of Coolidge State Forest (Coolidge parcel), in the town of Plymouth, to Markowski Excavation for the sum of \$275,000.00 contingent on the following: (1) The Department of Buildings and General Services and the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation shall each be reimbursed for all costs that each Department may incur; (2) the Coolidge parcel sold to Markowski Excavation shall not include any land that, in the opinion of the Agency of Natural Resources, includes important wildlife habitat, ecological or other significant natural resources, or outdoor recreation values; (3) the Department of Buildings and General Services shall hold a public meeting in the town of Plymouth on this proposal and gain the support of the Plymouth Selectboard for the sale; (4) upon the sale of the Coolidge parcel, Markowski Excavation shall convey to the State of Vermont a permanent access easement providing access from Route 100, across lands of Markowski Excavation, to adjacent state forestland located in the Calvin Coolidge State Forest; (5) the sale of the Coolidge parcel to Markowski Excavation shall be subject to restrictions that ensure that a 100-foot undeveloped buffer is retained around the perimeter of the parcel that abuts state forestland; (6) Markowski Excavation shall be responsible for all associated costs, including surveying, permitting, and legal; (7) Markowski Excavation shall be responsible for securing all permits and approvals necessary for any subsequent development of the Coolidge parcel; and (8) authorization to enter into this sale shall not be interpreted as state approval of any development proposal for the Coolidge parcel;

Second: That the General Assembly authorizes the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation to convey for public outdoor recreational purposes to the town of Grand Isle a parcel of up to 23.4 acres of Grand Isle State Park, currently licensed to the town of Grand Isle. Any conveyance of this parcel to the town shall be contingent on the following: (1) the town of Grand Isle shall not further subdivide or convey the parcel to another party, or develop or use the parcel for any purposes other than public outdoor recreational purposes; (2) the State shall retain a reversionary interest in the parcel, and the parcel shall revert to state ownership should the parcel not be used for public outdoor recreational purposes; (3) the conveyance to the town of Grand Isle shall include any covenants or deed restrictions the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation deems necessary to protect potential historic or archeological resources on the

transferred parcel; (4) the National Park Service shall approve this conveyance; (5) the transfer to the town of Grand Isle shall include all responsibilities for this parcel that are associated with the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund program; and (6) the town of Grand Isle shall be responsible for all associated costs of the exchange, including surveying, permitting, and legal.