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BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Fiscal Agency

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Senate Bill 773 (as reported without amendment)

Sponsor: Senator Robert Geake

Committee: State Affairs, Tourism, and Transportation

Date Completed: 3-2-90

RATIONALE

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) reports that it is consolidating some offices in southeastern Michigan, and a parcel of land currently under the jurisdiction of the Department of Mental Health, at the Northville Regional Psychiatric Hospital, would be suitable for a proposed district office. According to the DNR, a centralized office would better accommodate its clientele and the citizenry, and would reduce travel time for DNR staff.

CONTENT

The bill would authorize the State Administrative Board to transfer from the Department of Mental Health to the Department of Natural Resources, without consideration, a parcel of land currently under the jurisdiction of Northville Regional Psychiatric Hospital. The parcel contains about 51.37 acres subject to a road right to the Wayne County Road Commission over the northerly 60 feet of the parcel. The bill would provide that "all bearings are relative and referenced to previous adjacent surveys of adjacent property by which observatories of Polaris were taken". The parcel would be subject to any easements and rights-of-way that pertain to it.

The transfer of the property would be effective when approved by a resolution of the State Administrative Board, and all documents concerning the transfer would have to be approved by the Attorney General.

FISCAL IMPACT

The bill would have no fiscal impact on State or local government.

ARGUMENTS**Supporting Argument**

The parcel in question would be used for the DNR's new district office, house approximately 70 employees, and be used for business activities in southeastern Michigan. According to committee testimony, the property is not suitable for park purposes, for private residential or commercial development, or for a correctional facility. The DNR's proposed use, however, would be compatible with use of the adjoining hospital property by the Department of Mental Health. The boundaries of the parcel have been carefully defined, and the Departments' facilities would be screened from each other.

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