
OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 7130

AN ACT REQUIRING THE REVIEW OF THE STATE PROPERTIES REVIEW BOARD FOR MUNICIPAL REAL ESTATE ACQUISITIONS FUNDED BY CERTAIN GRANTS-IN-AID.

SUMMARY

This bill requires the State Properties Review Board (SPRB) to review any real estate acquisition funded by a grant-in-aid to a municipality under the state's Urban Action grant program or Small Town Economic Assistance Program (STEAP). (The bill does not specify what criteria the board must use to review an acquisition.) It requires the board to transmit a copy of the review to the municipality, the Office of Policy and Management secretary, and any state agency administering the grant under the applicable program.

The bill also specifies that a municipality that receives a grant-in-aid to acquire real property under the Urban Action grant program or STEAP is not subject to any other requirement for review or approval of the acquisition, except for the SPRB review required by the bill.

In general, the Urban Action grant program awards grants to municipalities designated as economically distressed, public investment communities, or urban centers to improve and expand activities that promote community conservation and development and improve the quality of life for urban residents. STEAP grants provide funding to municipalities that are ineligible for Urban Action grants and must be used for economic development, community conservation, and quality-of-life capital projects.

The SPRB generally helps oversee state real estate activities, acquisition of farm development rights, and the hiring of architects, engineers, and other construction-related professionals, as proposed by executive branch agencies. It gives guidance and assistance to state agencies to ensure that transactions are done in a prudent, business-like

way; costs are reasonable; and proposals comply with state laws, regulations, and procedures.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2025

COMMITTEE ACTION

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 19 Nay 0 (03/26/2025)