

HOUSE No. 4814

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, July 25, 2018.

The committee on Ways and Means, to whom was referred the Bill authorizing the sale of real property in Chelmsford (House, No. 4510), reports recommending that the same ought to pass with an amendment substituting therefor the accompanying bill (House, No. 4814).

For the committee,

JEFFREY SÁNCHEZ.

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**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court
(2017-2018)**

An Act authorizing the sale of real property in Chelmsford.

Whereas, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is to forthwith authorize the transfer of certain parcels of land in the town of Chelmsford, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Notwithstanding sections 32 to 37, inclusive, of chapter 7C of the General
2 Laws or any other general or special law to the contrary, the commissioner of capital asset
3 management and maintenance, in consultation with the chancellor of the University of
4 Massachusetts at Lowell, may: (i) sell; (ii) lease for terms of up to 99 years, including all
5 renewals and extensions; or (iii) otherwise grant, convey or transfer to 1 or more purchasers or
6 lessees an interest in the property located at 225 Princeton street in the town of Chelmsford,
7 containing approximately 32 acres, hereinafter the West campus, subject to this act and on such
8 terms and conditions that the commissioner may require. The property is more particularly
9 described in a deed recorded in the Middlesex North registry of deeds in book 2738, page 17;
10 provided, that the exact location and boundaries of the West campus or portions thereof to be

11 conveyed shall be determined by the commissioner after completion of a survey, in consultation
12 with the university.

13 The commissioner shall use appropriate competitive bidding processes and procedures
14 when making any disposition pursuant to this section. Not less than 30 days before the date on
15 which bids, proposals or other offers to purchase the West campus or any portion thereof, are
16 due, the commissioner shall place a notice in the central register published by the state secretary
17 pursuant to section 20A of chapter 9 of the General Laws stating the availability of the property,
18 the nature of the competitive bidding process and other information that the commissioner
19 considers relevant, including the time, place and manner for the submission of bids and proposals
20 and the opening of the bids or proposals. The commissioner shall also place notification in the
21 central register of the individual or firm selected as party to any real property transaction
22 involving the West campus and the amount of the transaction.

23 SECTION 2. Any purchase and sale agreement, lease or other document relating to the
24 sale, lease, transfer or other disposition of the West campus or any portion thereof shall provide
25 that the commonwealth including, without limitation, the university and the division of capital
26 asset management and maintenance, shall have no liability to any purchaser, lessee, transferee or
27 successor to any purchaser, lessee or transferee of all or part of the West campus for any claims
28 arising out of or related in any way to the conditions, known or unknown, of the West campus, or
29 otherwise in connection with any sale, lease, transfer or other disposition thereof.

30 SECTION 3. In the sale of the West campus or any portion thereof pursuant to this act,
31 the commissioner, in consultation with the chancellor, may retain or grant rights of way or
32 easements for access, egress, utilities and drainage across any other portions of the West campus

33 and the commonwealth may accept from the purchaser such rights of way or easements in
34 roadways or across any portions of the West campus to be conveyed or transferred for access,
35 egress, drainage and utilities as the commissioner considers necessary and appropriate to carry
36 out this section.

37 SECTION 4. The purchaser, lessee or transferee of any portion of the West campus
38 pursuant to this act shall be responsible for all costs and expenses related to the purchase, lease
39 or transfer of said property including, but not limited to, costs associated with surveys, deed
40 preparation and recording fees as such costs may be determined by the commissioner.

41 SECTION 5. No agreement for the sale, lease, transfer or other disposition of the West
42 campus, or any portion thereof, pursuant to this act and no deed, lease or other document
43 executed by or on behalf of the commonwealth shall be valid unless the agreement or deed
44 contains the following certification, signed by the commissioner: "I, the undersigned
45 commissioner of capital asset management and maintenance, hereby certify under penalties of
46 perjury that I have fully complied with the relevant provisions of all general and special laws in
47 connection with the property described in this document."

48 SECTION 6. The cash proceeds of the sale, lease, transfer or other disposition of the
49 West campus or portions thereof pursuant to section 1 and an amount equal to the purchase price
50 paid by the town of Chelmsford to purchase the property described in section 1 of chapter 141 of
51 the acts of 1998, pursuant to section 9 of said chapter 141 and more particularly described in a
52 deed recorded with the Middlesex North registry of deeds in book 31871, page 245, shall be
53 deposited into an expendable trust established pursuant to section 6 of chapter 6A of the General
54 Laws and 801 CMR 50.00. Proceeds in the trust may be expended for any transaction-related

55 expenses and expenses incurred by the division of capital asset management and maintenance
56 including, but not limited to, costs associated with the disposition of the property from which the
57 funds originated including, but not limited to, appraisals, surveys, deed preparation, site
58 preparation, plans, recording fees, smart growth review and feasibility and other marketing
59 studies and any other expenses relating to the disposition of the property, to the extent not paid
60 for by the grantee or grantees pursuant to section 4. Additionally, funds deposited into the trust
61 may be expended for capital repairs and improvements to facilities on the university's campus
62 including, but not limited to, the Perry hall engineering building, as determined by the
63 commissioner of capital asset management and maintenance and the chancellor of the university
64 and approved by the secretary of administration and finance.