

# Legislative Analysis

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## WESTERN MICHIGAN PROPERTY CONVEYANCE

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**House Bill 5207 as introduced**  
**Sponsor: Rep. Robert Jones**  
**Committee: Commerce**

**Complete to 8-25-09**

### ***BRIEF SUMMARY:***

House Bill 5207 first would authorize the State Administrative Board to accept property back from Western Michigan University (WMU) for \$1.00. The property is located in Kalamazoo County and was originally conveyed to WMU on June 25, 1978 via quitclaim deed. The quitclaim deed contained public use reverter and right of reentry language. The original conveyance authorized Michigan State University (MSU) to use the property for performing entomology research. An agreement has been reached between WMU and MSU to terminate use of the property for that purpose. In order to change the purpose for use, the property has to be conveyed back to the State. An approximate legal description of the property is set forth in the bill.

Second, the bill would authorize the State Administrative Board to convey the property back to WMU for \$1.00 via quitclaim deed or other instrument approved by the Attorney General. The property would then be required to be used exclusively for the purpose of expanding and improving the business technology and research park located on Western Michigan University's Parkview Campus. Any fees, terms, or conditions imposed for the use of the property would be required to be applied uniformly to all members of the public. The State would be authorized to reenter and repossess the property if these conditions were not met.

The State would reserve all rights in aboriginal antiquities, including the right to explore, excavate, and take them. Aboriginal antiquities include mounds, earthworks, forts, burial and village sites, mines, and other relics, on, within, or under the property.

The bill is tie-barred to House Bills 5205 and 5206.

### ***FISCAL IMPACT:***

According to WMU, the Business Technology and Research Park has consistently been rated one of the most successful smart zones in the State. It houses 31 companies and 645 jobs specializing in life-science, advanced engineering, and information technology. The bill would have no fiscal impact on the State.

Fiscal Analyst: Robin R. Risko

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