

Date of Hearing: April 22, 2026

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Buffy Wicks, Chair

AB 1947 (Ta) – As Introduced February 13, 2026

Policy Committee: Governmental Organization Vote: 22 - 0

Urgency: No State Mandated Local Program: No Reimbursable: No

SUMMARY:

This bill adds information to the annual report a state agency must provide to the Department of General Services (DGS) regarding surplus land.

Specifically, this bill:

- 1) Requires a state agency, including the Department of Transportation (Caltrans), to identify and report to DGS the market value of unutilized or underutilized land in the state agency's jurisdiction, regardless of whether the agency is currently prepared to dispose of the land.
- 2) Requires DGS to submit a report to the Legislature by January 1, 2031, containing this information reported to DGS by state agencies.

FISCAL EFFECT:

- 1) Costs of an unknown, but potentially absorbable amount, across all state agencies, including Caltrans, to report additional information regarding its unutilized or underutilized land.
- 2) One-time costs of an unknown, but potentially absorbable, amount to DGS to prepare an additional report regarding unutilized or underutilized land for the Legislature.

However, since the primary purpose of this bill is to create a report, this bill qualifies for this committee's suspense file consistent with committee rules.

COMMENTS:

- 1) **Purpose.** According to the author:

Californians do not pay taxes so that the state can be a landlord. Governments do not collect taxes on properties the state owns. The state also loses money on property it holds, as real estate is an appreciating asset and the state remains liable for its maintenance and upkeep. By optimizing management of state-owned land, AB 1947 will ensure that these assets are used effectively.

- 2) **State Surplus Land.** Existing law governs the disposition of surplus state-owned real property and requires each state agency to annually review all proprietary lands under its jurisdiction to identify and report to DGS land that is excess to the agency's foreseeable

needs. Once a property has been identified as excess by the state agency, DGS must determine if there is another state use for the property. If another state agency has interest in using the property, DGS assists the interested agency with preparing transfer of jurisdiction documents to complete a change of control. If there is no other state use, DGS must report land declared excess to the Legislature and request authorization to dispose of the property. This bill requires a state agency, as part of its annual review of propriety lands, to additionally identify and report to DGS land that is unutilized or underutilized by the agency, but not considered excess (“non-excess”). This bill also requires the agency to include the market value of land identified as excess or non-excess in the agency’s report to DGS. DGS must then submit a report to the Legislature compiling this information from state agencies by January 1, 2031.

- 3) **Related Legislation.** AB 1420 (Ta) is substantially similar to this bill, except AB 1420 does not add “market value” to the reporting requirements. AB 1420 was held on this committee’s suspense file.

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