



Texas General Land Office
George P. Bush, Commissioner

Managing State Lands
Mark A. Havens
General Counsel

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Land Office

STATE LANDS

- State Fee Lands – State owns both surface and mineral estate
- Relinquishment Act or Mineral Classified Lands
- Free Royalty tracts

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DEBT VS. LAND



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TEXAS CONSTITUTION OF 1876

- Two Important provisions regarding mineral reservations
- First – Article VII, Section 2: Creation of the PSF
 - All funds, lands and other property heretofore set apart and appropriated for the support of public schools; all the alternate sections of land reserved by the State out of grants heretofore made or that may hereafter be made to railroads, or other corporations, or any nature whatsoever; one-half of the public domain of the State, and all sums of money that may come to the State from the sale of any portion of the same, shall constitute a perpetual public school fund

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PERMANENT SCHOOL FUND

- This set aside more than 42 million acres of public free school land
- Today, that has led to more than \$11 billion dollars deposited into the permanent school fund from production of oil and gas on state lands.
- \$1 Billion dollars into the PSF last year
- \$8 Billion in the last decade

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GIVE IT AWAY

- Article XIV, Section 7 declared the following:
 - The State of Texas hereby releases to the owner or owners of the soil all mines and minerals that may be on the same, subject to taxation as other property.
- Prospective? Retrospective?

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