

"SURVEYOR" MEANS ANY PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYOR LICENSED TO PRACTICE LAND SURVEYING UNDER ARTICLE 75 1/2 OF THE CODE.

(K) VACANT LAND.

"VACANT LAND" MEANS LAND FOR WHICH A PATENT NEVER HAS BEEN ISSUED OR FOR WHICH THE APPLICANT BELIEVES THAT A PATENT NEVER HAS BEEN ISSUED.

(L) VERIFY.

"VERIFY" MEANS TO STATE IN WRITING, UNDER PENALTIES OF PERJURY, THAT THE MATTERS AND FACTS SET FORTH IN THE DOCUMENT TO WHICH THE STATEMENT RELATES ARE TRUE AND COMPLETE TO THE BEST OF THE KNOWLEDGE, INFORMATION, AND BELIEF OF THE PERSON MAKING THE STATEMENT.

13-102. PURPOSE AND INTENT.

(A) PURPOSE.

A PRIMARY PURPOSE OF LAND PATENT PROCEEDINGS IS TO:

(1) AVOID UNCERTAINTIES CAUSED BY THE EXISTENCE OF VACANT LAND, BY PROMPTLY RULING ON THE CLAIM OF A PATENT APPLICANT; AND

(2) TO BENEFIT THE COMMUNITY BY EXPANDING THE TAX BASE AS PREVIOUSLY UNTAXED, VACANT LAND IS RECOGNIZED AND MADE TO CONTRIBUTE ITS RIGHTFUL SHARE TOWARDS FINANCING GOVERNMENT.

(B) INTENT.

IT IS THE INTENTION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, THEREFORE, THAT THE STATE'S LAND PATENT PROCEEDINGS PROVIDE A SIMPLE, CONVENIENT, AND PROMPT METHOD FOR PROMOTING PRIVATE OWNERSHIP OF VACANT LAND AND, IN CERTAIN INSTANCES, FOR CLARIFYING THE OWNERSHIP OF LAND PREVIOUSLY PATENTED.

13-103. PATENT PROCEEDINGS GOVERNED BY TITLE.

ALL PROCEEDINGS FOR THE ISSUANCE OF A PATENT SHALL BE CONDUCTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS TITLE.

13-104. WHO MAY OBTAIN PATENT.

IN THE MANNER AND TO THE EXTENT PROVIDED IN THIS TITLE, ANY PERSON MAY:

(1) OBTAIN A PATENT FOR VACANT LAND; AND

(2) OBTAIN A PATENT FOR LAND THAT WAS PREVIOUSLY PATENTED AND IS OWNED IN FEE SIMPLE BY THE PERSON, NOTWITHSTANDING THE EXISTENCE OF ANY MORTGAGE, DEED OF TRUST, EASEMENT, RIGHT-OF-WAY, OR SIMILAR