

(3) Any grant made under this title by the State of its interest in any land.

(J) "PUBLIC USE" MEANS USE BY OR FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC.

[(h)](K) "Survey", whether used as a noun or as a verb in any form or tense, means:

(1) The act of surveying any vacant land in order to obtain a patent for the land; or

(2) The act of resurveying any land for which a patent previously was issued in order to obtain a new patent for the land.

[(i)](L) "Surveyor" means any professional land surveyor licensed under the Maryland Professional Land Surveyors Act.

[(j)](M) "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.

[(k)](N) "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.

(a) ~~A primary purpose~~ THE PURPOSES of land patent proceedings ~~is~~ ARE to:

(1) Avoid uncertainties caused by the existence of vacant land, by promptly ruling on the claim of a patent applicant; [and]

(2) GIVE GOVERNMENTAL BODIES PRIORITY IN RESERVING VACANT LAND FOR PUBLIC USE; AND

[(2)](3) [To] IN THE ABSENCE OF PUBLIC NEED, 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) It is the intention of the General Assembly, therefore, that the State's land patent proceedings provide a simple, convenient, and prompt method FOR RESERVING VACANT LAND FOR THE PUBLIC USE OF GOVERNMENTAL BODIES, for promoting private ownership of vacant land and, in certain instances, for clarifying the ownership of land previously patented.

13-106.

(A) (1) A GOVERNMENTAL BODY MAY RESERVE VACANT LAND BY OBTAINING FROM THE COMMISSIONER A CERTIFICATE OF RESERVATION FOR PUBLIC USE.

(2) EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED, THE PROVISIONS OF THIS TITLE APPLICABLE TO THE GRANTING OF LAND PATENTS ARE APPLICABLE TO THE GRANTING OF CERTIFICATES OF RESERVATION.