

2 SSB 5325 - S AMD - 178
3 By Senator Jacobsen

4 PULLED 3/17/97

5 On page 3, after line 25, insert the following:

6 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 76.12 RCW
7 to read as follows:

8 (1) Until December 31, 2017, a county legislative authority in a
9 county with a population of more than one million five hundred thousand
10 persons may file an application with the board of natural resources for
11 the transfer of all forest lands that were acquired from the county by
12 the state pursuant to RCW 76.12.030 and that are under the
13 administration of the department of natural resources. Upon the filing
14 of an application by the county legislative authority, the board of
15 natural resources shall direct the department of natural resources to
16 reconvey without cost or resurvey the forest lands to the requesting
17 county.

18 (2) Once land has been reconveyed to a county, it may be kept in
19 commercial forest status or used for recreational purposes.

20 (3) The land may not be sold or leased.

21 (4) Transferred lands may be exchanged in such manner as the
22 legislature may prescribe.

23 (5) Upon formal notification to the department by the respective
24 county that they desire their state forest board transfer lands
25 reconveyed, the department must transfer all data and documents
26 concerning those lands back to the respective county within ninety
27 days.

28 (6) Upon formal notification by the county to the department for
29 the reconveyance of the land, the department must halt all proposed
30 sale activity on the state forest board transfer land within the
31 respective county. The department is required to replant all lands
32 where there is an active sale occurring at the time a county gives
33 formal notice to the department for reconveyance of the land.

34 (7) The reconveyance of the state forest board transfer land within
35 the county must be done by quitclaim deed, and the term of the
36 reconveyance must be for a period of not less than twenty years.

1 (8) Revenues shall be dispersed as provided in RCW 76.12.030.

2 (9) All existing contracts for state forest board transfer land
3 will be honored until the completion of the contract, but no extensions
4 may be granted.

5 (10) Existing memorandum of agreement, memorandum of understanding,
6 landscape plan, habitat conservation plan, or similar agreements may be
7 continued at the discretion of the respective county. Any habitat
8 conservation plan inclusion of transferred lands is not permitted
9 unless the county legislative authority agrees to the inclusion by
10 resolution after public hearings and a full fiscal and forest
11 management analysis.

12 (11) The respective county assumes liability for those lands not
13 under contract for harvest by the purchaser at the date of the transfer
14 of the quitclaim deed. Those lands under contract transfer to the
15 county on the expiration date of the original contract. No extensions
16 shall be granted. The respective county will have the option of either
17 having the department replanting those lands, or having the lands
18 replanted, and billing the department for that activity. When billed,
19 the department must make payment within sixty days.

20 (12) Lands shall be open for public recreation consistent with
21 overall land management goals. Public access to the land must be
22 allowed whenever possible, subject to the discretion of the local
23 legislative authority. Lands that have recreational use funded by the
24 interagency committee for outdoor recreation, or other similar source,
25 shall remain in recreational use as dictated by agreement, contract,
26 rule, or statute.

27 (13) County personnel managing lands transferred back to a county
28 shall be trained to meet all of the requirements established by the
29 department for its personnel. A county legislative authority may
30 contract with the department for the operation of the forest program
31 for lands transferred back to the county.

32 (14) All counties that exercise their option of reconveyance must
33 make an annual report to the senate and house of representatives
34 natural resources committees, or their successor committees, and to the
35 board of natural resources, by February 1st of each year, as to the
36 activities on those lands. The report must include, but is not limited
37 to: The number of acres harvested; the volume of the harvest from
38 those acres; the number of acres replanted; the number of acres
39 precommercially thinned; the annual cost on a per acre basis; the age

1 of those acres harvested; the number of acres not designated for
2 harvest, and the reason why such a designation was made; and the number
3 of recreational users and the economic benefits they bring to the
4 county."

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