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SECOND SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1825

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State of Washington

55th Legislature

1997 Regular Session

By House Committee on Appropriations (originally sponsored by Representatives Sump, Thompson, Pennington, Sheldon, DeBolt, Kessler and Hatfield)

Read first time 03/10/97.

1 AN ACT Relating to the forest development account; amending RCW  
2 76.12.030; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 76.12.030 and 1991 c 363 s 151 are each amended to  
5 read as follows:

6 If any land acquired by a county through foreclosure of tax liens,  
7 or otherwise, comes within the classification of land described in RCW  
8 76.12.020 and can be used as state forest land and if the department  
9 deems such land necessary for the purposes of this chapter, the county  
10 shall, upon demand by the department, deed such land to the department  
11 and the land shall become a part of the state forest lands.

12 Such land shall be held in trust and administered and protected by  
13 the department as other state forest lands. Any moneys derived from  
14 the lease of such land or from the sale of forest products, oils,  
15 gases, coal, minerals, or fossils therefrom, shall be distributed as  
16 follows:

17 (1) The expense incurred by the state, as well as any fees or  
18 charges assessed by the state, for administration, reforestation, and  
19 protection, not to exceed (~~twenty-five~~) twenty-two percent, which

1 rate of percentage shall be determined by the board of natural  
2 resources, shall be returned to the forest development account in the  
3 state general fund. By June 30th of each year, the board of natural  
4 resources must establish the percentage and a budget for the following  
5 fiscal year in such a manner that the balance in the account does not  
6 exceed the amount necessary for six months of operating expenses for  
7 administration, reforestation, and protection. The board of natural  
8 resources must set the level of the balance of the account in  
9 cooperation with the counties that have forest board transfer lands.

10 If the terms of a lease or sale of forest products or other  
11 resources from the forest board transfer lands include any special fees  
12 or charges that the lessee or the purchaser must pay to the state, then  
13 those fees or charges shall be included in the calculation of the  
14 expense for the administration, reforestation, and protection of these  
15 lands. This shall include any charges the department may impose for  
16 the use of roads as provided in RCW 79.38.030.

17 (2) Any balance remaining shall be paid to the county in which the  
18 land is located to be paid, distributed, and prorated, except as  
19 hereinafter provided, to the various funds in the same manner as  
20 general taxes are paid and distributed during the year of payment:  
21 PROVIDED, That any such balance remaining paid to a county with a  
22 population of less than nine thousand shall first be applied to the  
23 reduction of any indebtedness existing in the current expense fund of  
24 such county during the year of payment.

25 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. This act is necessary for the immediate  
26 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the  
27 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect  
28 June 30, 1997.

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