

No. 612, S.]

[Published August 30, 1957.

CHAPTER 626

AN ACT to amend 26.30 (9) (a) of the statutes, relating to the distribution and collection of costs incurred by the state in controlling forest insect pests and diseases.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

26.30 (9) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

26.30 (9) (a) At the completion of the control measures in any area, or at the end of the calendar year, the commission shall prepare a certified statement of the expenses incurred in carrying out such measures including expenses of owners covered by agreements pursuant to sub. (8) but these charges shall not include salary or expenses of regular permanent or seasonal personnel of the commission, or operating costs for such regular equipment as may be owned or purchased by the commission for insect pest control work. The statement shall show the amount which the commission determines to be the state's share of the expenses, but this amount shall not be less than 50 per cent of *the balance of such expenses incurred on forest lands after federal funds allocated to a specific control project have been deducted.* The share of the state may include any federal aid funds and the value of contributions made available by other co-operators * * *. The balance of such costs shall constitute a charge on an acreage basis against the owners of lands in the area affected by the forest pests for which control measures were conducted. In fixing the rates at which charges shall be made against each owner, the commission shall consider present values and the present and potential benefits to such owner and to the state as a whole from the application of control measures, the cost of applying such measures to his land, and other such factors as in the discretion of the commission will enable it to determine an equitable distribution of the costs to all such owners. No charge shall be made against owners to the extent that they have individually or collectively contributed funds, supplies or

services pursuant to agreement, and 160 acres or less of forest land owned by any person within any county shall be exempt from any control cost.

Approved August 14, 1957.
