



1995 ASSEMBLY BILL 526

August 28, 1995 - Introduced by Representatives JOHNSRUD, FREESE, PORTER, SERATTI, KREIBICH, HAHN, DOBYNS, GARD, HUEBSCH, ZUKOWSKI, GOETSCH, MUSSER, SILBAUGH, OURADA, OTTE, SKINDRUD, SPRINGER, F. LASEE and AINSWORTH, cosponsored by Senators RUDE, SCHULTZ and ZIEN. Referred to Committee on Ways and Means.

1 **AN ACT to create** 77.18 of the statutes; **relating to:** signatures and
2 authentication requirements for orders under the forest croplands program
3 and the woodland tax law program.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, the department of natural resources (DNR) administers 2 programs that cover private forest lands: the forest croplands program and the woodland tax law program. The owner of land under either of these programs is exempt from payment of municipal property taxes on the land in the program in exchange for the owner's payment of an acreage share, which is lower than the municipal property tax, and for the owner's compliance with approved forestry and other conservation practices. In administering these programs, DNR must file a copy of orders withdrawing or declassifying the land from either program with certain governmental agencies, and must record the orders with the register of deeds in the counties in which the land is located. Current law also requires that unless different requirements apply, every instrument offered for record in the office of the register of deeds must bear all of the required signatures and must contain a specified form of authentication. This bill allows the order to be signed by a facsimile signature of a DNR official or employe, and it exempts the order from the authentication requirement for recording with the office of the register of deeds.

For further information see the *state and local* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

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

4 **SECTION 1.** 77.18 of the statutes is created to read:

1 **77.18 Signatures on orders. (1)** The signature of an official or an employe
2 of the department of natural resources may be stamped, printed or otherwise
3 reproduced on an order under this subchapter after the official or employe adopts the
4 stamped, printed or otherwise reproduced signature as his or her facsimile
5 signature.

6 **(2)** The signature or the facsimile signature under sub. (1) of an official or an
7 employe of the department of natural resources meets the requirements under s.
8 706.05 (2) (a).

9 **(3)** The requirements of s. 706.05 (2) (b) do not apply to orders under this
10 subchapter.

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(END)