

April 14, 2016

TO THE HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE SENATE:

I have approved Assembly Bill 434 as 2015 Wisconsin Act 358 and have deposited it in the Office of the Secretary of State. I have exercised the partial veto in section 52.

Senate Bill 434 requires the Department of Natural Resources to send by certified letter or electronic mail a decision of approval or denial of a cutting notice to the owner of managed forest law property no later than the end of the business day following the day the department decides on the notice. I am partially vetoing this provision because I object to the costs imposed on the department by requiring approval notices to be sent via certified mail. Additionally, the partial veto of this provision accomplishes the original intent of the bill's authors.

Historically the department has received approximately 3,000 cutting notices annually. Currently the department has access to the email address for only six percent of managed forest land owners. Sending an approval or denial in response to every notice at a rate of \$6.74 per contact would cost \$20,200. Assuming the number of email contacts grows to 50 percent, contacting the remaining 1,500 land owners would cost approximately \$10,100. By partially vetoing the provision and limiting the certified mail requirement for denials of cutting notices, the cost would drop to between \$300 and \$600 annually.

Respectfully submitted,

SCOTT WALKER

Governor