



2015 SENATE BILL 655

February 1, 2016 - Introduced by Senators BEWLEY and MILLER, cosponsored by Representatives MILROY, DANOU, BERCEAU, T. LARSON, OHNSTAD, A. OTT, CONSIDINE and WACHS. Referred to Committee on Judiciary and Public Safety.

1 **AN ACT** *to amend* 26.14 (9) (b); and *to create* 26.14 (9) (c) of the statutes;
2 **relating to:** reimbursement of expenses for suppressing a forest fire.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill requires that damages recovered from a person liable for a forest fire be paid in equal proportion to the state and to the county in which fire suppression services were performed. Under current law, the costs of suppressing a forest fire are shared in equal proportion by the state and the county.

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

3 **SECTION 1.** 26.14 (9) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:
4 26.14 (9) (b) Any person who sets a fire on any land and allows such fire to
5 escape and become a forest fire shall be liable for all expenses incurred in the
6 suppression of the fire ~~by the state or town in which the fire occurred~~ under sub. (3).
7 An action under this paragraph shall be commenced within the time provided by s.
8 893.91 or be barred.

