

2003 ASSEMBLY BILL 12

January 30, 2003 – Introduced by Representatives FRISKE, AINSWORTH, SERATTI, M. WILLIAMS, VRAKAS, FREESE, OTT, LOEFFELHOLZ, HAHN, BIES, KRAWCZYK, OWENS, JESKEWITZ, POWERS, M. LEHMAN, J. WOOD, ALBERS, PETROWSKI, JENSEN and BLACK, cosponsored by Senators KEDZIE, BRESKE, WELCH, SCHULTZ and HANSEN. Referred to Committee on Forestry.

- 1 **AN ACT** *to amend* 28.05 (1); and *to create* 28.045 of the statutes; **relating to:**
2 educational requirements for foresters employed by the Department of Natural
3 Resources and persons authorized to designate trees for cutting in state forests.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill requires every forester who is employed by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to have received a bachelor's or higher degree in forestry from a school of forestry with a curriculum accredited by the Society of American Foresters or an equivalent degree from a school located in another country. The educational requirements of this bill only apply to newly hired foresters. Current statutes do not require foresters employed by DNR to satisfy specified educational requirements.

Under current law, before a tree may be cut in a state forest, it must be marked by a forester who is in the professional series of the state classified civil service or by a DNR employee who is equally qualified due to having long, practical experience in marking trees for cutting. Under the bill, the marking must be done either by a forester employed by DNR or an individual who DNR determines to be qualified and who is under the oversight of a DNR forester.

For further information see the *state* 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:

