



**WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
AMENDMENT MEMO**

2009 Senate Bill 296

Senate Substitute Amendment 1

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2009 Senate Bill 296 would allow a landowner to apply to the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for a 10-year extension of a managed forest land (MFL) order if all of the following apply:

- 30% or more of the merchantable timber on five or more contiguous acres of land subject to the MFL order was adversely affected by fire, ice, snow, insects, disease, wind, or flooding.
- The adverse affect occurred within the last 15 years of the term of the MFL order.
- The stumpage value of the affected timber was reduced by 30% or more.

The bill requires the application to be certified by a DNR field forester, limits the DNR's ability to deny an application, and requires notice and recording of the order extension with various entities.

Senate Substitute Amendment 1 to Senate Bill 296 would allow a landowner to apply to the DNR for a 10-year extension of the due date of yield taxes if a catastrophic event (disease, insects, fire, ice, snow, wind, or flooding) causes a 50% or more reduction in the total stumpage value of one or more quarter-quarter-quarter sections of MFL land (tracts). These damaged tracts must make up at least 15% of the land under the MFL order.

If a catastrophic event occurred within the last 15 years of the term of an MFL order, the substitute amendment would also allow a landowner to apply to continue to pay, for 10 years following the expiration of the MFL order in effect at the time of the catastrophic event, the annual per acre amount established under the order in effect at the time of the catastrophic event. This extension would only be available for land re-enrolled in the MFL program and only for the damaged tracts.

Like the bill, the substitute amendment requires the application to be certified by a DNR field forester and limits the DNR's ability to deny an application.

Legislative History

Senate Substitute Amendment 1 was offered by Senator Lassa on January 14, 2010. The Senate Committee on Transportation, Tourism, Forestry, and Natural Resources recommended adoption of the substitute amendment on a vote of Ayes, 7; Noes, 0, and recommended passage of Senate Bill 296, as amended, on a vote of Ayes, 6; Noes, 1.

LAK:ksm