

SENATE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
HOUSE BILL NO. 4379

A bill to amend 1994 PA 451, entitled  
"Natural resources and environmental protection act,"  
by amending sections 50703, 50706, and 51101 (MCL 324.50703,  
324.50706, and 324.51101), sections 50703 and 50706 as added by  
1995 PA 57 and section 51101 as amended by 2006 PA 383.

**THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:**

1       Sec. 50703. **(1)** A county forestry committee is created for  
2 purposes of this part and shall consist of 5 members who ~~shall be~~  
3 **ARE** appointed by the county board of commissioners. Two members of  
4 the county forestry committee shall be **QUALIFIED** foresters,  
5 ~~registered under article 21 of the occupational code, Act No. 299~~  
6 ~~of the Public Acts of 1980, being sections 339.2101 to 339.2108 of~~  
7 ~~the Michigan Compiled Laws,~~ 1 member shall be a member of the

1 county economic development corporation, 1 member shall be a member  
 2 of the county board of commissioners, and 1 member shall be a  
 3 resident of the county who is not a county official or employee. If  
 4 the county has not established an economic development corporation  
 5 under the economic development corporations act, ~~Act No. 338 of the~~  
 6 ~~Public Acts of 1974, being sections 1974 PA 338, MCL 125.1601 to~~  
 7 ~~125.1636, of the Michigan Compiled Laws,~~ 2 members shall be  
 8 residents of the county who are not county officials or employees.  
 9 The members of the county forestry committee shall be appointed for  
 10 a term of 4 years, except that of the first appointments, 2 shall  
 11 be for a term of 4 years, 1 shall be for a term of 3 years, 1 shall  
 12 be for a term of 2 years, and 1 shall be for a term of 1 year. All  
 13 actions of the county forestry committee shall be approved by the  
 14 county board of commissioners. A vacancy on the county forestry  
 15 committee shall be filled by the county board of commissioners for  
 16 the remainder of the unexpired term.

17 (2) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, "QUALIFIED FORESTER" MEANS THAT  
 18 TERM AS DEFINED IN SECTION 7JJ OF THE GENERAL PROPERTY TAX ACT,  
 19 1893 PA 206, MCL 211.7JJ[I].

20 Sec. 50706. (1) Within 30 days after the execution of a lease  
 21 authorized by this part, the county forestry committee shall submit  
 22 to the department for approval a forest management plan prepared by  
 23 a **QUALIFIED** forester. ~~registered under article 21 of the~~  
 24 ~~occupational code, Act No. 299 of the Public Acts of 1980, being~~  
 25 ~~sections 339.2101 to 339.2108 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.~~

26 (2) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, "QUALIFIED FORESTER" MEANS THAT  
 27 TERM AS DEFINED IN SECTION 7JJ OF THE GENERAL PROPERTY TAX ACT,

1 1893 PA 206, MCL 211.7JJ[I].

2 Sec. 51101. As used in this part:

3 (a) "Ad valorem general property tax" means taxes levied under  
4 the general property tax act, 1893 PA 206, MCL 211.1 to  
5 ~~211.157~~.211.155.

6 (b) "Commercial forest" or "commercial forestland" means  
7 forestland that is determined to be a commercial forest under  
8 section 51103.

9 (c) "Declassify" or "declassification" means the removal of  
10 the commercial forest designation ~~pursuant to~~ **UNDER** section 51116.

11 (d) "Forestland" means a tract of land that may include  
12 nonproductive land that is intermixed with productive land that is  
13 an integral part of a managed forest and that meets all the  
14 following:

15 (i) Does not have material natural resources other than those  
16 resources suitable for forest growth or the potential for forest  
17 growth.

18 (ii) Is not used for agricultural, mineral extraction except as  
19 provided in section 51113, grazing, industrial, developed  
20 recreational, residential, resort, commercial, or developmental  
21 purposes.

22 (iii) The owner agrees to develop, maintain, and actively manage  
23 the land as a commercial forest through planting, natural  
24 reproduction, or other silvicultural practices.

25 (e) "Forest management plan" means a written plan prepared and  
26 signed by a ~~registered~~ **QUALIFIED** forester or a natural resources  
27 professional that prescribes measures to optimize production,

utilization, and regeneration of forest resources. The forest management plan shall include schedules and timetables for the various silvicultural practices used on commercial forestlands, including, but not limited to, timber harvesting and regeneration.

(f) "Fund" means the commercial forest fund created under section 51112.

(g) "Natural resources professional" means ~~a person~~ **AN INDIVIDUAL** who is acknowledged by the department as having the education, knowledge, experience, and skills to identify, schedule, and implement appropriate forest management practices needed to achieve the purposes of this part on land subject to or to be subject to this part.

(h) "Owner" means a person ~~who~~ **THAT** holds title to the surface estate of forestland subject to this part. However, if land is purchased on a land contract, the owner includes the person ~~who~~ **THAT** holds the land contract vendee's interest and does not include the person ~~who~~ **THAT** holds the land contract vendor's interest.

(i) "Personal use" means use for any noncommercial purpose.

(j) ~~"Registered"~~ **"QUALIFIED** forester" means ~~a person registered under article 21 of the occupational code, 1980 PA 299, MCL 339.2101 to 339.2108.~~ **THAT TERM AS DEFINED IN SECTION 7JJ OF THE GENERAL PROPERTY TAX ACT, 1893 PA 206, MCL 211.7JJ[I].**

(k) "Silvicultural practices" means the management and manipulation of forest vegetation for the protection, growth, and enhancement of forest products.

Enacting section 1. This amendatory act does not take effect unless all of the following bills of the 97th Legislature are

1 enacted into law:

2 (a) Senate Bill No. 481.

3 (b) Senate Bill No. 484.

4 (c) House Bill No. 4380.