

**STATE OF MICHIGAN
96TH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2012**

Introduced by Rep. Foster

ENROLLED HOUSE BILL No. 4913

AN ACT to amend 1994 PA 451, entitled "An act to protect the environment and natural resources of the state; to codify, revise, consolidate, and classify laws relating to the environment and natural resources of the state; to regulate the discharge of certain substances into the environment; to regulate the use of certain lands, waters, and other natural resources of the state; to prescribe the powers and duties of certain state and local agencies and officials; to provide for certain charges, fees, assessments, and donations; to provide certain appropriations; to prescribe penalties and provide remedies; and to repeal acts and parts of acts," by amending section 51108 (MCL 324.51108), as amended by 2008 PA 299.

The People of the State of Michigan enact:

Sec. 51108. (1) An owner of a commercial forest may withdraw his or her land, in whole or in part, from the operation of this part upon application to the department and payment of the withdrawal application fee and penalty, as provided in this section.

(2) Except as otherwise provided by this section, upon application to the department to withdraw commercial forestland from the operation of this part, the applicant shall forward to the department a withdrawal application fee in the amount of \$1.00 per acre with a minimum withdrawal application fee of \$200.00 per application and a maximum withdrawal application fee of \$1,000.00 per application.

(3) Except as otherwise provided in this section, an application to withdraw commercial forestland from the operation of this part shall be granted upon the payment to the township treasurer in which the commercial forestland is located of a penalty. For applications to withdraw commercial forestland filed on or after September 27, 2007 in which the withdrawal penalty has not been paid before October 8, 2008, the withdrawal penalty shall be calculated in the following manner:

(a) Multiply the number of acres of commercial forestland withdrawn from the operation of this part by 1 of the following:

(i) For 2007, 1/2 of the valuation per acre for the county in which the forestland is located.

(ii) Beginning in 2008, and for each subsequent year, the number described in subparagraph (i) adjusted annually by the inflation rate for each year after 2007.

(b) Multiply the product of the calculation in subdivision (a) by the average millage rate levied by all townships, excluding villages, in the county in which the property is located.

(c) Multiply the product of the calculation in subdivision (b) by the number of years, to a maximum of 7 years, in which the property withdrawn from the operation of this part has been designated as commercial forestland under this part.

(d) Multiply the product of the calculation in subdivision (c) by the following:

(i) 0.2, if the commercial forestland is located in Luce county.

(ii) 0.3, if the commercial forestland is located in Grand Traverse, Manistee, Ottawa, or Wexford county.

(iii) 0.4, if the commercial forestland is located in Charlevoix, Chippewa, Emmet, Gladwin, Leelanau, Midland, Oscoda, or Tuscola county.

(iv) 0.5, if the commercial forestland is located in Cheboygan, Delta, Mackinac, Oceana, Otsego, or Schoolcraft county.

(v) 0.6, if the commercial forestland is located in Alcona, Alger, Allegan, Alpena, Arenac, Barry, Bay, Benzie, Berrien, Branch, Calhoun, Cass, Clare, Clinton, Crawford, Dickinson, Eaton, Genesee, Gogebic, Gratiot, Hillsdale, Houghton, Huron, Ingham, Ionia, Iosco, Iron, Isabella, Jackson, Kalamazoo, Kalkaska, Kent, Lapeer, Lenawee, Livingston, Macomb, Marquette, Mecosta, Monroe, Montcalm, Montmorency, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oakland, Ogemaw, Osceola, Presque Isle, Roscommon, Saginaw, St. Clair, St. Joseph, Sanilac, Shiawassee, Van Buren, Washtenaw, or Wayne county.

(vi) 0.7, if the commercial forestland is located in Antrim, Baraga, Mason, or Menominee county.

(vii) 0.8, if the commercial forestland is located in Keweenaw, Lake, Missaukee, or Ontonagon county.

(4) The department shall publish all of the following on its website:

(a) The calculation described in subsection (3)(a)(i) for each county.

(b) The adjusted value and the inflation rate described in subsection (3)(a)(ii) for each county.

(c) The average millage rate described in subsection (3)(b) for each county.

(5) An application to withdraw commercial forestland from the operation of this part that meets 1 or more of the following requirements shall be granted without payment of the withdrawal application fee or penalty under this section:

(a) Commercial forestland that has been donated to a public body for public use prior to withdrawal.

(b) Commercial forestland that has been exchanged for property belonging to a public body if the property received is designated as a commercial forest as determined by the department.

(c) Commercial forestland that has been condemned for public use.

(6) An application to withdraw commercial forestland from the operation of this part that meets all of the following requirements shall be granted without payment of the withdrawal application fee or penalty under this section:

(a) Evidence is submitted to the department that the land met the legal requirements to be exempt from ad valorem property tax on tax day for the tax year in which the list application was submitted and approved and that the land would have met the legal requirements to be exempt from ad valorem property tax on tax day for each year that the land was subject to the operation of this part, if the land had not been subject to the operation of this part. As used in this subdivision, "tax day" means that term as provided in section 2.

(b) The application to withdraw is submitted to the department by the same landowner that owned the land on tax day for the tax year in which the list application was submitted and that submitted the application for determination under section 51103.

(c) Reimbursement is made by the landowner to the state treasurer for the specific tax that was paid by the state treasurer to the county treasurer, as provided in section 51106(1), for each tax year the land was commercial forestland.

(7) The department shall remit the withdrawal application fee paid pursuant to subsection (2) to the state treasurer for deposit into the fund. The penalty received by the township treasurer under subsection (3) shall be distributed by the township treasurer in the same proportions to the various funds as the ad valorem general property tax is allocated in the township, except as provided by section 51109(2).

(8) If an application to withdraw commercial forestland is granted, the department shall immediately notify the applicant, the supervisor of the township, and the register of deeds of the county in which the lands are located of the action and shall file with those officials a list of the lands withdrawn.

(9) As used in this section:

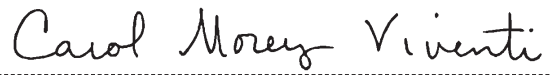
(a) "Inflation rate" means the lesser of 1.05 or the inflation rate as defined in section 34d of the general property tax act, 1893 PA 206, MCL 211.34d.

(b) "Valuation" means the market value as determined by the state tax commission.

This act is ordered to take immediate effect.



Clerk of the House of Representatives



Secretary of the Senate

Approved

Governor