



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:

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1 **SECTION 1.** 28.045 of the statutes is created to read:

2 **28.045 Educational requirements for foresters.** (1) Every person hired
3 as a forester by the department on or after the effective date of this subsection ...
4 [revisor inserts date], shall have received a bachelor's or higher degree in forestry
5 from a school of forestry with a curriculum accredited by the Society of American
6 Foresters or an equivalent degree from a school located in another country, as
7 determined by the chief state forester.

8 (2) Notwithstanding s. 230.14 (3m), the department may require as a condition
9 of application that an applicant for the position of forester has met the educational
10 requirements specified under sub. (1).

11 **SECTION 2.** 28.05 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

12 28.05 (1) LIMITATIONS. Cutting shall be limited to trees marked or designated
13 for cutting by a forester ~~in the professional series of the state classified civil service~~
14 employed by the department or by ~~a department-designated employee equally~~
15 qualified by reason of long, practical experience an individual determined by the
16 department to be qualified to do such marking or designating and who is under the
17 oversight of a forester employed by the department. The department may sell
18 products removed in cultural or salvage cuttings and standing timber designated in
19 timber sale contracts, but all sales shall be based on tree scale or on the scale,
20 measure or count of the cut products. The department may require that a person
21 purchasing products or standing timber under a timber sale contract provide surety
22 for the proper performance of the contract either directly or through a bond furnished
23 by a surety company authorized to do business in this state.

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(END)