

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action:	Do Pass
Vote:	4 - 1 - 0
Yeas:	Atkinson, Bates, Prozanski, Avakian
Nays:	Beyer
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Sue Marshall, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	5/01

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Requires the Department of Forestry to ensure that implementation of the federal forest legacy program complies with all land use laws and regulations. Eliminates requirement that proposed forest legacy land area be wholly within an urban growth boundary.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- History of the Forest Legacy Program
- Conversion of forestlands to non-forest use
- Potential to leverage limited federal dollars with other conservation programs

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Forest Legacy is a federal program, established in 1990, that works in partnership with the states. The program recognizes that the majority of the nation's productive forestland is in private ownership and is designed to support state and local efforts to protect threatened forestlands from conversion to non-forest use. In addition, the program promotes good stewardship and long-term sustainable management of privately held forested areas. Forest Legacy is a voluntary program. House Bill 2468 removes the requirement that a proposed forest legacy land area be within an urban growth boundary.