

## **SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

### **Item 49: Department of Forestry Forest Legacy Program**

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To:           Emergency Board Full Committee  
From:        Education Subcommittee  
Carrier:      Senator Frederick

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The Education Subcommittee recommends that the Emergency Board increase the Federal Funds expenditure limitation of the Department of Forestry by \$17,000,000 to accommodate the expenditure of available funding received by the U.S. Forest Service for land acquisitions under the Forest Legacy Program.

The Forest Legacy program is a federal program that supports state-based efforts to protect environmentally sensitive forest lands from development. The program does this through supporting acquisition of subject lands by a conserving entity, or through the purchase of conservation easements that restrict development. Subject lands must be currently owned by private entities. The Department of Forestry acts as an agent of the Forest Service, coordinating the projects, managing the application process, and acting as the paying agent.

The Department of Forestry anticipates the completion of three projects for which it requires additional Federal Funds expenditure limitation. These are:

- Purchase of 1,468 acres by the Arch Cape Water District to protect the community's water supply and watershed.
- Purchase of 7,589 acres of forestland on Spence Mountain by Klamath County to protect the land from development and formalize public access.
- Completion of a conservation easement on roughly 19,000 acres in Hood River County to restrict development and protect environmental and recreational resources.

The subject lands will continue to be used as working forests and produce commercial forest products.

The Subcommittee recommends approval.