

Senate Bill 404

Sponsored by Senator GIROD (Pre-session filed.)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**. The statement includes a measure digest written in compliance with applicable readability standards.

Digest: The Act tells an agency to transfer certain state forest lands to counties. The Act describes when and how the transfers must occur. (Flesch Readability Score: 77.4).

Directs the State Board of Forestry to convey certain state forest lands to a county that determines that the county would secure the greatest permanent value of the lands to the county and requests conveyance.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to state forest lands.

3 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

4 **SECTION 1. Section 2 of this 2025 Act is added to and made a part of ORS 530.010 to**
5 **530.170.**

6 **SECTION 2. (1) As used in this section, "forest lands":**

7 (a) **Means any lands, or interest in lands, that constitute a state forest or a portion of**
8 **a state forest.**

9 (b) **Does not include lands that are Common School Forest Lands or are described in ORS**
10 **530.450.**

11 (2) **Notwithstanding ORS 530.010 and 530.050, the State Board of Forestry shall convey**
12 **forest lands within a county to the county if:**

13 (a) **The board of county commissioners of the county determines that conveyance of the**
14 **forest lands to the county would secure the greatest permanent value of the forest lands to**
15 **the county; and**

16 (b) **The board of county commissioners requests that the State Board of Forestry convey**
17 **the forest lands to the county.**

18 (3) **Forest lands conveyed under this section are conveyed subject to:**

19 (a) **Any encumbrance allowed by the state under ORS 530.020;**

20 (b) **Any covenants of the state under ORS 530.130 or 530.147;**

21 (c) **Any easement under ORS 530.050; and**

22 (d) **Any lease agreement under ORS 530.055.**

23 (4) **Forest lands conveyed under this section constitute county lands pursuant to ORS**
24 **chapter 275.**

25 (5) **The county shall pay all transaction and closing costs related to a conveyance under**
26 **this section, including recording fees, escrow fees or the costs of title insurance.**

27 (6) **The county shall pay to the state as consideration for the transfer not more than the**
28 **total of the following:**

29 (a) **Any purchase price or value received by the county from the state when the state**

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

- 1 **acquired the forest lands;**
2 **(b) Any costs to the state to partition the forest lands to achieve the transfer;**
3 **(c) Any expenses incurred by the state in suits by the state to quiet title to the forest**
4 **lands; and**
5 **(d) Any transaction costs paid by the state.**
6 **(7) Funds received by the state under subsection (6) of this section must be deposited in**
7 **the State Forestry Department Account.**
8 **(8) The Oregon Department of Administrative Services shall assist the State Board of**
9 **Forestry with the conveyance of forest lands under this section.**
10 **SECTION 3. Forest lands, as defined in section 2 of this 2025 Act, that are conveyed un-**
11 **der section 2 of this 2025 Act are subject to the provisions of ORS 527.610 to 527.770, 527.990**
12 **and 527.992.**
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