

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Department of Forestry Cash Flow Repayment Fund

To: Ways and Means Full Committee
From: Natural Resources Subcommittee
Carrier: Senator Frederick

On March 10th, the Natural Resources Subcommittee received a report from the Department of Forestry on the status of the State Forestry Department Cash Flow Repayment Fund.

SB 5801 was passed during the 2024 1st Special Session, in response to the unprecedented cost of the 2024 wildfire season. The measure provided resources to the Department of Forestry, including a General Fund deposit of over \$109 million into the State Forestry Department Cash Flow Repayment Fund, which has statutory reporting requirements.

The Department reports that all vendor invoices received from the 2024 wildfire season were processed within eight days of the deposit. There is a \$17.5 million balance remaining in the Fund. Between agency resources and the deposit, the Department processed \$110 million worth of vendor payments by December 31, 2024.

The Natural Resources Subcommittee recommends acknowledging receipt of the report.