

## LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVE

*The citizens of Northwest Wisconsin request:*

***Increase the Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) for County Forest Lands from \$.30 to \$10.00 per acre.***

### **Background:**

A significant portion of County Forest Lands is located in the Northwest Portion of the State of Wisconsin.

County Forest lands are entered under and participating under Wisconsin State Statute 28.11 County Forest Law, which, among other things, outlines the framework for County Forest management.

Seven Northwest Wisconsin counties account for over 44% of the State's County Forest land.

County Forest valuation is dramatically less than non-forest valuation.

The State currently provides a PILT payment of \$.30 per acre to local units of government for County Forest lands.

The State currently provides local units of government PILT payments for State owned lands that range from \$.80 per acre for lands purchased prior to 1970; approximately \$1.87 per acre for lands purchased between 1970 and 1982; and approximately \$2.41 per acre for lands purchased since 1992.

In 2013, Federal PILT payments for National Forest lands were approximately \$1.00 per acre to local units of government.

The State PILT payment amount for County Forest lands has not changed in over 20 years.

Contact:

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