

HB 1637 - DIGEST

Declares an intent to: (1) Allow the small forest landowner office to begin the process of calculating the compensation that may be offered to a small forest landowner who is participating in the forest riparian easement program shortly after receipt of the landowner's application; and

(2) Ensure that family forest landowners, for whom the forest riparian easement program was initially designed, are compensated under the program before all other qualifying landowners.

Requires the small forest landowner office to, by the end of the 2009-2011 fiscal biennium, use any funding specifically made available to it for these purposes from the state's capital construction budget to complete the compensation estimates for forest riparian easement applications received by the small forest landowner office before the effective date of the act. This requirement expires July 1, 2011.