

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5866

To require the Secretary of Agriculture to release a reversionary interest in certain land in the Black River State Forest in Millston, Wisconsin, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 28, 2025

Mr. VAN ORDEN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

A BILL

To require the Secretary of Agriculture to release a reversionary interest in certain land in the Black River State Forest in Millston, Wisconsin, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. RELEASE OF REVERSIONARY INTEREST.**

4 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

5 (1) DELI, INC.—The term “Deli, Inc.” means
6 Deli, Inc., a sphagnum moss production business lo-
7 cated in Millston, Wisconsin.

8 (2) DELI LAND.—The term “Deli land” means
9 the approximately 37.27 acres of land owned or

1 optioned to acquire, subject to the approval of the
2 land exchange by the Wisconsin Department of Nat-
3 ural Resources, the Wisconsin Natural Resources
4 Board, and the Governor of Wisconsin, in 2 separate
5 parcels, by Deli, Inc., and located in Millston, Wis-
6 consin, as depicted on the map and as described as
7 follows:

8 (A) A parcel of real property containing
9 approximately 31.3 acres (which includes land
10 within the road right-of-way), together with any
11 improvements—

12 (i) comprising the NE¹/₄NE¹/₄ sec.
13 29, T. 20 N., R. 2 W., Town of Millston,
14 Jackson County, Wisconsin;

15 (ii) excluding—

16 (I) land lying north of the rail-
17 road right-of-way; and

18 (II) a parcel 150 feet wide, with
19 50 feet lying to the northeast, and
20 100 feet to the southwest, of a line
21 commencing at a point 5 feet east of
22 the northwest corner of the quarter-
23 quarter section described in clause (i),
24 thence south 56° east 39' a distance

1 of 222 feet, thence south 57° east 31’
2 a distance of 1359 feet; and

3 (iii) subject to—

4 (I) any public water use or ease-
5 ments on Lee Lake; and

6 (II) any easements or restrictions
7 of record, public roadways, zoning and
8 use ordinances, and the railroad right-
9 of-way.

10 (B) A parcel of real property containing
11 approximately 5.97 acres located in the
12 SW¹/₄SW¹/₄ sec. 20, T. 20 N., R. 4 W., Town
13 of Millston, Jackson County, Wisconsin, com-
14 prising lot 7 of Certified Survey Map No. 4483,
15 as recorded in volume 19S of the certified sur-
16 vey maps, page 334, as Document No. 413440
17 in the Jackson County Register of Deeds.

18 (3) MAP.—The term “map” means the map en-
19 titled “Black River State Forest – Deli, Inc.” and
20 dated June 26, 2023.

21 (4) STATE.—The term “State” means the State
22 of Wisconsin.

23 (5) STATE FOREST LAND.—The term “State
24 forest land” means the approximately 31.83 acres of
25 land located in the Black River State Forest in

1 Millston, Wisconsin, as depicted on the map and as
2 described as follows:

3 (A) A parcel containing 23.13 acres—

4 (i) comprising the portion of the
5 E¹/₂SE¹/₄ sec. 20, T. 20 N., R. 2. W.,
6 Town of Millston, Jackson County, Wis-
7 consin, lying south of the Interstate High-
8 way 94 southern right-of-way; and

9 (ii) excluding a triangular parcel in
10 the southwest corner described as com-
11 mencing at the southwest corner, thence
12 east 260 feet, thence northwesterly to a
13 point on the west boundary thereof 200
14 feet north of the southwest corner, thence
15 south to the place of beginning.

16 (B) A parcel containing 8.70 acres com-
17 prising the portion of the NE¹/₄NE¹/₄ sec. 29,
18 T. 20 N., R. 2. W., Town of Millston, Jackson
19 County, Wisconsin, lying north of the railroad
20 right-of-way, forming a triangular piece and de-
21 scribed as commencing at the northeast corner
22 of that quarter-quarter section, thence west
23 1010 feet to the north line of the railroad right-
24 of-way, thence southeasterly along the boundary
25 of the railroad to the east line of that quarter-

1 quarter section, thence north on the east line
2 750 feet to the place of beginning.

3 (b) CONDITIONAL RELEASE.—

4 (1) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

5 (A) the State forest land is subject to a re-
6 versionary interest of the United States pursu-
7 ant to section 32(c) of The Bankhead-Jones
8 Farm Tenant Act (7 U.S.C. 1011(c)), requiring
9 that the State forest land be used for public
10 purposes in perpetuity; and

11 (B) the State and Deli, Inc. have agreed
12 that the State will convey the State forest land
13 in exchange for the Deli land, and the Deli land
14 will be added to Black River State Forest in the
15 State.

16 (2) CONDITIONAL RELEASE.—If the State of-
17 fers in a written agreement to convey the State for-
18 est land to Deli, Inc., in exchange for the conveyance
19 of the Deli land to the State—

20 (A) the reversionary interest of the United
21 States in the State forest land shall be released;
22 and

23 (B) the Secretary of Agriculture shall pro-
24 vide, as expeditiously as possible, recordable evi-

1 dence of the release under subparagraph (A) in
2 the form of a quitclaim deed, which shall—

3 (i) convey any interest of the United
4 States in the State forest land without
5 consideration; and

6 (ii) be provided to the State for re-
7 cording before the exchange deeds are re-
8 corded.

9 (3) CORRECTIONS.—The Secretary of Agri-
10 culture, in consultation with the State, may make
11 any necessary corrections to the legal description of
12 the State forest land for purposes of the quitclaim
13 deed described in paragraph (2)(B).

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