

Calendar No. 209

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION**S. 1262**

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 SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 2, 2025

Mr. JOHNSON (for himself and Ms. BALDWIN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

OCTOBER 27, 2025

Reported by Mr. BOOZMAN, without amendment

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, BLACK**
4 **RIVER STATE FOREST, WISCONSIN.**

5 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

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

4 (2) DELI LAND.—The term “Deli land” means
5 the approximately 37.27 acres of land owned or
6 optioned to acquire, subject to the approval of the
7 land exchange by the Wisconsin Department of Nat-
8 ural Resources, the Wisconsin Natural Resources
9 Board, and the Governor of the State, in 2 separate
10 parcels, by Deli, Inc., located in Millston, Wisconsin,
11 as depicted on the map and more particularly de-
12 scribed as follows:

13 (A) The approximately 31.3-acre parcel
14 (including land within the road right-of-way),
15 together with any improvements—

16 (i) comprising the NE¹/₄NE¹/₄ of sec.
17 29, T. 20 N., R. 2 W., Town of Millston,
18 Jackson County, Wisconsin;

19 (ii) excluding—

20 (I) land lying north of the rail-
21 road right-of-way; and

22 (II) a parcel 150 feet wide, with
23 50 feet lying to the northeast, and
24 100 feet to the southwest, of a line
25 commencing at a point 5 feet east of

1 the northwest corner of the quarter-
 2 quarter section described in clause (i),
 3 thence south 56° E. 39' a distance of
 4 222 feet, thence south 57° E. 31' a
 5 distance of 1359 feet; and

6 (iii) subject to—

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

9 (II) any easements or restrictions
 10 of record, public roadways, zoning and
 11 use ordinances, and the railroad right-
 12 of-way.

13 (B) The approximately 5.97-acre parcel lo-
 14 cated in the SW¹/₄SW¹/₄ of sec. 20, T. 20 N.,
 15 R. 4 W., Town of Millston, Jackson County,
 16 Wisconsin, comprising lot 7 of Certified Survey
 17 Map No. 4483, as recorded in volume 19S of
 18 the certified survey maps, page 334, as Docu-
 19 ment No. 413440 in the Jackson County Reg-
 20 ister of Deeds.

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

24 (4) STATE.—The term “State” means the State
 25 of Wisconsin.

(5) STATE FOREST LAND.—The term “State forest land” means the approximately 31.83 acres of land located in the Black River State Forest in Millston, Wisconsin, as depicted on the map and more particularly described as follows:

(A) The 23.13-acre parcel—

(i) comprising the portion of the E $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of sec. 20, T. 20 N., R. 2. W., Town of Millston, Jackson County, Wisconsin, lying south of the Interstate 94 southern right-of-way; and

(ii) excluding a triangular parcel in the southwest corner described as commencing at the southwest corner, thence east 260 feet, thence northwesterly to a point on the west boundary thereof 200 feet north of the southwest corner, thence south to the place of beginning.

(B) The 8.70-acre parcel comprising the portion of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of sec. 29, T. 20 N., R. 2. W., Town of Millston, Jackson County, Wisconsin, lying north of the railroad right-of-way, forming a triangular piece, and more particularly described as commencing at the northeast corner of that quarter-quarter section,

1 thence west 1010 feet to the north line of the
 2 railroad right-of-way, thence southeasterly
 3 along the boundary of the railroad to the east
 4 line of that quarter-quarter section, thence
 5 north on the east line 750 feet to the place of
 6 beginning.

7 (b) CONDITIONAL RELEASE.—

8 (1) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

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

15 (B) the State and Deli, Inc. have agreed
 16 that—

17 (i) the State will convey to Deli, Inc.
 18 the State forest land in exchange for the
 19 Deli land; and

20 (ii) after that exchange, the Deli land
 21 will be added to Black River State Forest
 22 in the State.

23 (2) RELEASE.—If the State offers, in a written
 24 agreement, to convey to Deli, Inc., the State forest

1 land in exchange for the conveyance of the Deli land
2 by Deli, Inc. to the State—

3 (A) the reversionary interest of the United
4 States in the State forest land shall be released;
5 and

6 (B) the Secretary of Agriculture shall pro-
7 vide, as expeditiously as practicable, recordable
8 evidence of the release under subparagraph (A)
9 in the form of a quitclaim deed, which shall—

10 (i) convey any interest of the United
11 States in and to the State forest land,
12 without consideration; and

13 (ii) be provided to the State for re-
14 cording before the exchange deeds are re-
15 corded.

16 (3) CORRECTIONS.—The Secretary of Agri-
17 culture, in consultation with the State, may make
18 any necessary corrections to the legal description of
19 the State forest land for purposes of the quitclaim
20 deed described in paragraph (2)(B).

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