

**FISCAL NOTE**  
**Requested by Legislative Council**  
**12/31/2018**

Bill/Resolution No.: SB 2064

- 1 A. **State fiscal effect:** *Identify the state fiscal effect and the fiscal effect on agency appropriations compared to funding levels and appropriations anticipated under current law.*

	2017-2019 Biennium		2019-2021 Biennium		2021-2023 Biennium	
	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds
<b>Revenues</b>		\$0		\$0		\$0
<b>Expenditures</b>		\$(2,500)		\$(10,000)		\$(10,000)
<b>Appropriations</b>		\$0		\$0		\$0

- 1 B. **County, city, school district and township fiscal effect:** *Identify the fiscal effect on the appropriate political subdivision.*

	2017-2019 Biennium	2019-2021 Biennium	2021-2023 Biennium
<b>Counties</b>			
<b>Cities</b>			
<b>School Districts</b>			
<b>Townships</b>			

- 2 A. **Bill and fiscal impact summary:** *Provide a brief summary of the measure, including description of the provisions having fiscal impact (limited to 300 characters).*

The change would amend language relating to the location of the Office of the State Forester. With declining budgets, the Forest Service is strategically reviewing its programs, identifying cost saving measures and striving to increase efficiencies. Travel costs are a significant area of concern.

- B. **Fiscal impact sections:** *Identify and provide a brief description of the sections of the measure which have fiscal impact. Include any assumptions and comments relevant to the analysis.*

During the 2015-2017 biennium, there were two allotments of 4.05% and 2.5% for a total general fund reduction of \$328,014. During the 65th Legislative Assembly the base budget for the Forest Service was cut by 11.6% or \$581,417. The Governor's 2019-2021 budget guidelines call once again for base budget reductions. With declining budgets, the Forest Service is strategically reviewing all of its programs, identifying cost saving measures and striving to increase efficiencies. Travel costs are a significant area of concern. Over one year timeframe, the State Forester duties required 15 trips to Bismarck with 21 nights of lodging and the equivalent of 15 work days driving a motor vehicle. Removing the State Forester location requirement from the Century Code would allow the Forest Service the flexibility to select a more cost-effective location for the position.

3. **State fiscal effect detail:** *For information shown under state fiscal effect in 1A, please:*

- A. **Revenues:** *Explain the revenue amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each revenue type and fund affected and any amounts included in the executive budget.*

There are no revenue impacts associated with this proposed amendment.

- B. **Expenditures:** *Explain the expenditure amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each agency, line item, and fund affected and the number of FTE positions affected.*

The proposed amendment would result in a reduction in expenditures for motor pool, lodging and per diem. The Forest Service anticipates \$5,000 or more in annual savings by moving the Office of the State Forester.

- C. **Appropriations:** *Explain the appropriation amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each agency and fund affected. Explain the relationship between the amounts shown for expenditures and appropriations. Indicate whether the appropriation or a part of the appropriation is included in the executive budget or relates to a continuing appropriation.*

The proposed legislation does impact current or future appropriations. The agency currently maintains office locations in Bottineau, Bismarck and Fargo.

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