AN ACT REQUIRING AN EVALUATION OF PUBLIC LANDS IN THE CONTEXT OF CLIMATE CHANGE, BIODIVERSITY AND PUBLIC HEALTH.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

That the general statutes be amended to quantify the contribution of state-owned working and natural lands to mitigate negative air emissions and determine the future stewardship of public lands in the context of projected landscape-scale changes in the state in the next fifty years, particularly regarding the capacity for natural lands to sequester carbon, mitigate flooding and protect native biodiversity and wildlife corridors and to evaluate the contribution of public lands to physical and mental health across the state, including aspects such as clean air and water, disease prevention, recreation and solace. Finally, to identify and protect any old growth forest habitat.

Statement of Purpose:
To evaluate to role of public lands to mitigate negative emissions in order to achieve the state's climate goals.