

**STATE FOREST LANDS, PURCHASE OF**  
**Act of May 8, 1917, P.L. 156, No. 88**  
AN ACT

Cl. 32

Authorizing the Department of Forestry to purchase surface rights to lands, for use as State forests.

**Compiler's Note:** Section 302(h) of Act 18 of 1995, which created the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and renamed the Department of Environmental Resources as the Department of Environmental Protection, provided that the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources shall exercise the powers and duties conferred upon the Department of Forestry by Act 88 of 1917.

Section 1. Be it enacted, &c., That the Department of Forestry is hereby authorized to purchase and receive conveyance of surface rights to any lands within this Commonwealth, for forestry purposes, and to hold such lands as State forests.

Section 2. Where the title to any such land is subject to outstanding rights conveying waters, minerals, oil, gas, or other valuable deposits, or any privileges or reservations whatsoever, the Department of Forestry may, in its discretion, accept conveyance of the surface rights to such lands, where the administration of scientific and practical forestry will not be interfered with or made impossible by such outstanding rights, privileges, or reservations.