[CHAPTER 781]

AN ACT

To authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to cooperate with the States to enable them to provide technical services to private forest landowners, and for other purposes.

August 25, 1950 [H. R. 7155] [Public Law 729]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of Agriculture is hereby authorized to cooperate with State foresters or equivalent officials of the several States, Territories, and possessions for the purpose of encouraging the States, Territories, and possessions to provide technical services to private forest landowners and operators, and processors of primary forest products with respect to the management of forest lands and the harvesting, marketing, and processing of forest products, and, where necessary to avoid uneconomic duplication of certain technical and training services, to make such services available to private agencies and persons. All such technical services shall be provided in each State, Territory, or possession in accordance with a plan agreed upon in advance between the Secretary and the State forester or equivalent official of the State, Territory, or possession. The provisions of this Act and the plan agreed upon for each State, Territory, or possession shall be carried out in such manner as to encourage the utilization of private agencies and individuals furnishing services of the type described in this section.

Cooperative Forest Management Act.

Appropriation authorized.

Sec. 2. There is hereby authorized to be appropriated annually, to enable the Secretary to carry out the provisions of this Act, the sum of \$2,500,000. Apportionment among the participating States, administrative expenses in connection with cooperative action with such States, and the amount to be expended by the Secretary to make technical services available to private persons and agencies, shall be determined by the Secretary after consultation with a national advisory board of not less than five State foresters or equivalent officials selected by a majority of the State foresters or equivalent officials of all States, Territories, or possessions participating in the program. The amount paid by the Federal Government to any State, Territory, or possession for cooperative action in the State, Territory. or possession shall not exceed during any fiscal year the amount expended by the cooperating State, Territory, or possession for the same purpose during the same fiscal year, and the Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to make such expenditures on the certificate of the appropriate official of the State, Territory, or possession having charge of the cooperative work for the State, Territory, or possession that the expenditures as herein provided have been made: Provided. That it is the intent of Congress that the Secretary may continue to cooperate with persons and private agencies in furnishing technical forestry services under existing authority.

SEC. 3. The Act of May 18, 1937 (50 Stat. 188), known as the Cooperative Farm Forestry Act, is hereby repealed effective June 30, 1951.

Sec. 4. This Act shall be known as the Cooperative Forest Management Act.

Approved August 25, 1950.

Repeal. 16 U. S. C. § 568b.

Short title.