
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 4410

State of Washington 55th Legislature 1997 Regular Session

By Representative McMorris

Read first time 02/28/97. Referred to Committee on Commerce & Labor.

1 WHEREAS, Washington State has rich and diverse forest resources;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, There are 21.5 million acres of public and private forest
4 lands in this state; and

5 WHEREAS, Washington forests supply many goods and services,
6 including water, fish, wildlife, recreation, timber, forage, and open
7 space; and

8 WHEREAS, The regulation and importance of forest practices and
9 their effect on the environment and quality of soil in Washington State
10 are increasingly complex; and

11 WHEREAS, There is increasing demand for timber from private
12 nonindustrial landowners; and

13 WHEREAS, An increasing number of individuals hold themselves out as
14 experts in forest management practices as the available supply of
15 harvestable timber diminishes and the value of forest products
16 increases; and

17 WHEREAS, There currently are no means of providing reliable
18 information to private landowners about the training and expertise of
19 persons representing themselves as consulting foresters; and

1 WHEREAS, Individuals without adequate training and experience can
2 cause significant damage to the forests of our state by recommending
3 unproven or unsound forest management practices;

4 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By the House of Representatives,
5 the Senate concurring, That a joint select committee on consulting
6 foresters be established to conduct an interim review to determine
7 appropriate methods for developing consistent and reliable information
8 about consulting foresters, and for publication and distribution of
9 such information to the public; and

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the committee consist of eight
11 members, four members each selected by the Speaker of the House of
12 Representatives and the President of the Senate; and

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That advice and counsel should be sought
14 from representatives of the Association of Consulting Foresters;
15 Washington Farm Forestry Association; Society of American Foresters;
16 and Washington Forest Protection Association to make the best use of
17 information currently available; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the committee report its findings to
19 the legislature prior to the 1998 regular session of the legislature.

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