1095-S
Sponsor(s): House Committee on Agriculture & Natural Resources
(originally sponsored by Representatives Rockefeller, Sump,
Linville, Orcutt, Schoesler, Pearson, Holmquist, Haigh and
Kristiansen; by request of Commissioner of Public Lands)

Brief Description: Limiting the impact on small forest landowners
caused by forest road maintenance and abandonment requirements.

HB 1095-S - DIGEST

(SUBSTITUTED FOR - SEE 2ND SUB)

Finds that chapter 4, Laws of 1999 sp. sess. strongly
encouraged the forest practices board to adopt administrative rules
that were substantially similar to the recommendations presented to
the legislature in the form of the forests and fish report. The
rules adopted pursuant to the 1999 legislation require all forest
landowners to complete a road maintenance and abandonment plan, and
those rules cannot be changed by the forest practices board without
either a final order from a court, direct instructions from the
legislature, or a recommendation from the adaptive management
process.

Finds that, in the time since the enactment of chapter 4, Laws
of 1999 sp. sess., it has become clear that both the planning
aspect and the implementation aspect of the road maintenance and
abandonment plan requirement may cause an unforeseen and unintended
disproportionate financial hardship on small forest landowners.

Finds that it is in the state's interest to help small forest
landowners comply with the requirements of the forests and fish
report in a way that does not require the landowner to spend
unreasonably high and unpredictable amounts of money to complete
road maintenance and abandonment plan preparation and
implementation.

Finds that the commissioner of public lands and the governor
have explored solutions that minimize the hardship caused to small
forest landowners by the forest road maintenance and abandonment
requirements of the forests and fish law, while maintaining
protection for public resources.

Declares that this act represents the bulk of the
recommendations stemming from that process.