
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1985

State of Washington

59th Legislature

2005 Regular Session

By House Committee on Natural Resources, Ecology & Parks (originally sponsored by Representatives Buck and B. Sullivan)

READ FIRST TIME 02/24/05.

1 AN ACT Relating to establishing the future of Washington forests
2 review council; creating new sections; making appropriations; and
3 providing an expiration date.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The future of Washington forests review
6 council is established. The purpose of the council is to: (1) Gather
7 data necessary to understanding the economic, recreational, and
8 environmental contributions of the forest products industry and
9 secondary manufacturing sectors in Washington and the trends that will
10 influence the industry in the future; (2) gather data necessary to
11 understand the trends and dynamics commercial and residential
12 development play in the conversion of Washington's forests; and (3)
13 develop recommendations for policy changes that will contribute to
14 maintaining the economic stability and growth of the forest products
15 industry in Washington.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The future of Washington forests review
17 council is composed of the following members: The governor, the
18 lieutenant governor, and the commissioner of public lands.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The future of Washington forests review
2 council is directed and authorized, subject to funding in the omnibus
3 appropriations act, to commission the following studies:

4 (1) An update of the 1992 timber supply study for Washington state
5 that was done by the University of Washington. The update must be
6 conducted using the same fundamental processes, methodology, and
7 assumptions as the 1992 study, and using the same data gathering
8 methodology as the original study. The department of natural resources
9 is directed to fully cooperate with the update process and provide the
10 data from the recently completed sustained yield calculation process.
11 The council is directed to assemble a team of public and private forest
12 inventory and analysis specialists to develop the specific work plan
13 for the timber supply update and work with the vendor to ensure that
14 the data and analysis are collected in the appropriate fashion.

15 (2) An independent assessment of the economic contribution of the
16 forest products industry, and secondary manufacturing sectors, to the
17 state of Washington. This assessment will also examine some of the
18 macroeconomic trends likely to affect the industry in the future.

19 (3) A comparison of the competitive position of Washington's forest
20 products industry with other leading forest products states, or
21 regions, of the United States. This evaluation should compare the
22 relative tax burden for growing and harvesting timber between the
23 states or regions, the relative cost of adhering to regulations, and
24 identify the competitive advantages of each state or region. The
25 council is directed to assemble a team of public and private sector
26 experts and economists to fully develop the work plan and work with the
27 vendor to ensure the data and analysis are of high quality.

28 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The future of Washington forests review
29 council may form one or more technical advisory committees to assist
30 the council in assembling and understanding recently completed studies
31 or analysis that will assist the council in accomplishing its task.
32 Examples include, but are not limited to, the legislative task force on
33 forest health, the joint legislative audit and review committee study
34 on forest fire fighting costs, the forest practices board's
35 environmental impact statement for changes in forest practices under
36 forest and fish, the board of natural resources' environmental impact
37 statement for the department of natural resources' sustained yield

1 level, and the recently completed economic analysis of the Oregon
2 forest sector contributions and potential by the Oregon forest
3 resources institute. The council may also form a technical advisory
4 committee to provide input on issues that arise during the course of
5 their review.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** The future of Washington forests review
7 council shall review all of the information gathered in sections 2
8 through 4 of this act. The council will summarize the current and
9 potential roles of nonfederal forests, and their contributions to
10 Washington state's economy, quality of life, recreation, environmental
11 quality, and rural vitality over the next fifty years. Based on this
12 review, the council shall develop recommendations on: (1) Policy
13 changes that would enhance the competitive position of Washington's
14 forest products industry in Washington; (2) policy changes that would,
15 to the extent possible, ensure that a productive forest land base
16 continues to be managed for forest products, recreation, and
17 environmental and other public benefits into the future; and (3) policy
18 changes that would enhance the recreational opportunities on working
19 forest lands in Washington.

20 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** The future of Washington forests review
21 council must be staffed by the governor's office, the office of
22 financial management, and the department of natural resources.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** (1) The sum of one hundred thousand dollars,
24 or as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for the fiscal
25 year ending June 30, 2006, from the general fund to the governor's
26 office for the purposes of this act.

27 (2) The sum of one hundred thousand dollars, or as much thereof as
28 may be necessary, is appropriated for the fiscal year ending June 30,
29 2007, from the general fund to the governor's office for the purposes
30 of this act.

31 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** This act expires July 1, 2007.

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