

# House Bill 2115

Ordered printed by the Speaker pursuant to House Rule 12.00A (5). Presession filed (at the request of Governor Theodore R. Kulongoski for State Forestry Department)

## SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Extends forest products harvest tax for forest research and Oregon Forest Practices Act administration to 2008 and 2009 calendar years. Establishes tax rates.

Applies to forest products harvest tax reporting periods beginning on or after January 1, 2008.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

1  
2 Relating to forest products harvest taxation; creating new provisions; amending ORS 321.015; and  
3 providing for revenue raising that requires approval by a three-fifths majority.

4 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

5 **SECTION 1.** ORS 321.015 is amended to read:

6 321.015. (1) For the calendar years beginning January 1, [2006] **2008**, and January 1, [2007]  
7 **2009**, there is levied a privilege tax of [67 cents] \_\_\_\_\_ per thousand feet, board measure, upon  
8 taxpayers for the privilege of harvesting of all merchantable forest products harvested on  
9 forestlands. Subject to ORS 321.145, the proceeds of the tax shall be transferred as provided in ORS  
10 321.152 (2) to the Forest Research and Experiment Account for use for the forest resource research,  
11 experimentation and studies described in ORS 526.215 and for the Forest Research Laboratory es-  
12 tablished under ORS 526.225.

13 (2) Except as provided in ORS 477.760, in addition to the tax levied by subsection (1) of this  
14 section, there hereby is levied a forest products harvest tax upon taxpayers of 50 cents per thousand  
15 feet, board measure, for the privilege of harvesting all merchantable forest products harvested on  
16 forestlands for the payment of benefits related to fire suppression as provided in ORS 321.005 to  
17 321.185, 321.560 to 321.600 and 477.440 to 477.460.

18 (3) For the calendar years beginning January 1, [2006] **2008**, and January 1, [2007] **2009**, in ad-  
19 dition to the taxes levied under subsections (1) and (2) of this section, there hereby is levied a  
20 privilege tax upon taxpayers for the privilege of harvesting all merchantable forest products har-  
21 vested on forestlands in the amount of [55 cents] \_\_\_\_\_ per thousand feet, board measure, for the  
22 purpose of administering the Oregon Forest Practices Act in an amount not to exceed 40 percent  
23 of the total expenditures approved by the Legislative Assembly for this purpose, including salary  
24 adjustments approved by the Legislative Assembly for fiscal years [2006 and 2007] **2008 and 2009**.

25 (4) Subject to subsection (5) of this section, the taxes shall be measured by and be applicable to  
26 each per thousand feet, board measure, on the total quantity of forest products harvested in this  
27 state measured by use of any log scale which is or may be in general use in the logging industry  
28 and which is designed to measure total volume of merchantable forest products in board feet. How-  
29 ever, if the Department of Revenue finds that the scale used by any taxpayer in computing the taxes  
30 due under ORS 321.005 to 321.185 and 321.560 to 321.600 does not accurately reflect the total

**NOTE:** Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 quantity of merchantable forest products harvested by the taxpayer, it may require the taxpayer to  
2 adopt another log scale in general use in the industry which in the department's opinion will accu-  
3 rately reflect merchantable harvest in board feet.

4 (5) The first 25,000 feet, board measure, of forest products harvested annually by any taxpayer  
5 during each calendar year shall be excluded from the total quantity of harvested forest products that  
6 constitutes the measure of the taxes under ORS 321.005 to 321.185 and 321.560 to 321.600.

7 **SECTION 2. The amendments to ORS 321.015 by section 1 of this 2007 Act apply to forest**  
8 **products harvest tax reporting periods beginning on or after January 1, 2008.**

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