

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action: Do Pass
Vote: 7 - 0 - 1
Yeas: Boone, Cowan, Esquivel, Johnson, Schaufler, Clem, Jenson
Nays: 0
Exc.: Sprenger
Prepared By: Beth Herzog, Administrator
Meeting Dates: 5/18

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Authorizes Department of Forestry (ODF) to enter into contracts to supply woody biomass from state forestlands as needed to facilitate development of projects, including bioenergy projects. Defines “biomass” and “woody biomass.” Directs State Forester to assess types of woody biomass available and serve as information resource for persons seeking to use woody biomass for energy development. Requires periodic report on biomass data. Adds removal of woody biomass to definition of “forest practice.”

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Location of biomass facilities
- ODF’s intention to do one-time, coarser-scale statewide overview of availability of woody biomass

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Woody biomass is material from trees and woody plants that is a by-product of other activities such as timber harvesting or fuel reduction. Woody biomass is used in recycled wood materials or converted into biofuels to provide a source of renewable energy. Senate Bill 862 A would authorize the State Forester to enter into contracts to provide a supply of woody biomass from forestlands managed by ODF to facilitate the development of projects, including but not limited to bio-energy projects.