

HB 2455

Relating to forest products harvest taxation

HB 2455 is commonly referred to as the harvest tax bill. The measure levies a privilege tax on the harvesting of merchantable forest products harvested on forestlands. The bill sets the effective rates for the two calendar year period of 2016 through 2017. Those rates are applied to the harvested products by the thousand board feet, with the first 25,000 board feet harvested annually by any taxpayer excluded. There are four individual rates contained in the measure providing funding for the following purposes:

- 90.0 cents/KBF for the Oregon State University Forest Research Lab
- 62.5 cents/KBF for Fire Suppression Activities
- 110.37 cents/KBF for Administration of the Forest Practices Act
- 10.0 cents/KBF Oregon State University Professional Forestry Education

The total estimated revenue for the upcoming biennium from the harvest tax is roughly \$21.2 million.

The Natural Resources Subcommittee recommends HB 2455 be amended by the -2 amendment and be reported out do pass, as amended.