

This proposed piece of legislation is abominable. If I as a tree farmer must pay a large fee and ask for a specific time when I can harvest it will severely hamper my ability to farm efficiently and profitably. If I cannot time my harvest to meet the market, it will possibly result in not meeting the market when prices are good. This will result in considerable losses throughout the small woodland ownerships. This bill appears to be a movement to stifle and force us to sell or for the state to take over our lands. It is already difficult to wait 40-100 years for a harvest and then to be charged for doing so is ridiculous. Are you going to start charging wheat farmers to apply for a permit to harvest? Why is a tree farm any different in how they should be treated? We are already providing cleaner air, cleaner water and improved soil. Shouldn't we start charging society for doing this?

Neil Schroeder, Tree farmer