

A-Engrossed House Bill 2072

Ordered by the House June 3
Including House Amendments dated June 3

Introduced and printed pursuant to House Rule 12.00. Pre-session filed (at the request of House Interim Committee on Revenue for Representative Nancy Nathanson)

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. The statement includes a measure digest written in compliance with applicable readability standards.

Digest: The Act would extend three taxes on the privilege of harvesting forest products and set the new tax rates. (Flesch Readability Score: 67.3).

Extends certain taxes on the privilege of harvesting merchantable forest products on forestlands.

Takes effect on the 91st day following adjournment sine die.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to forest products harvest taxation; amending ORS 321.015; prescribing an effective date;
3 and 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, [2024] **2026**, and January 1, [2025]
7 **2027**, there is levied a privilege tax of 90.00 cents per thousand feet, board measure, upon taxpayers
8 for the privilege of harvesting of all merchantable forest products harvested on forestlands. Subject
9 to ORS 321.145, the proceeds of the tax shall be transferred as provided in ORS 321.152 (2) to the
10 Forest Research and Experiment Account for use for the forest resource research, experimentation
11 and studies described in ORS 526.215 and for the Forest Research Laboratory established under ORS
12 526.225.

13 (2) Except as provided in ORS 477.760, in addition to the tax levied by subsection (1) of this
14 section, there is levied a forest products harvest tax upon taxpayers of 62.5 cents per thousand feet,
15 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, [2024] **2026**, and January 1, [2025] **2027**, in ad-
19 dition to the taxes levied under subsections (1) and (2) of this section, there is levied a privilege tax
20 upon taxpayers for the privilege of harvesting all merchantable forest products harvested on
21 forestlands in the amount of [253.46] **265.44** cents per thousand feet, board measure, for the purpose
22 of administering the Oregon Forest Practices Act in an amount not to exceed 40 percent of the total
23 expenditures approved by the Legislative Assembly for this purpose, including salary adjustments
24 approved by the Legislative Assembly for fiscal years [2024] **2026** and [2025] **2027**.

25 (4) For the calendar years beginning January 1, [2024] **2026**, and January 1, [2025] **2027**, in ad-
26 dition to the taxes levied by subsections (1) to (3) of this section, there is levied a privilege tax of

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 21 cents per thousand feet, board measure, upon taxpayers for the privilege of harvesting all
2 merchantable forest products harvested on forestlands. Subject to ORS 321.145, the proceeds of the
3 tax shall be transferred as provided in ORS 321.152 (5) to the subaccount established pursuant to
4 ORS 350.520 for use by Oregon State University for the purpose of making investments in profes-
5 sional forestry education at the College of Forestry.

6 (5) Subject to subsection (6) of this section, the taxes shall be measured by and be applicable to
7 each per thousand feet, board measure, on the total quantity of forest products harvested in this
8 state measured by use of any log scale which is or may be in general use in the logging industry
9 and which is designed to measure total volume of merchantable forest products in board feet. How-
10 ever, if the Department of Revenue finds that the scale used by any taxpayer in computing the taxes
11 due under ORS 321.005 to 321.185 and 321.560 to 321.600 does not accurately reflect the total
12 quantity of merchantable forest products harvested by the taxpayer, it may require the taxpayer to
13 adopt another log scale in general use in the industry which in the department's opinion will accu-
14 rately reflect merchantable harvest in board feet.

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

18 (7)(a) Not later than March 10 of each odd-numbered year, the Legislative Assembly shall begin
19 considering the biennial forest products harvest tax rates levied under subsections (1), (3) and (4)
20 of this section.

21 (b) Upon request of the Legislative Revenue Officer or the Legislative Fiscal Officer, the State
22 Forestry Department shall provide the respective officers with relevant timber harvest data for the
23 purposes of paragraph (a) of this subsection.

24 **SECTION 2. This 2025 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the date on which the 2025**
25 **regular session of the Eighty-third Legislative Assembly adjourns sine die.**