

Committee Name:

**Assembly Committee – Rural Affairs and Forestry
(AC–RAF)**

Appointments

01hr_AC–RAF_Appt_pt00

Committee Hearings

01hr_AC–RAF_CH_pt00

Committee Reports

01hr_AC–RAF_CR_pt00

Clearinghouse Rules

01hr_AC–RAF_CRule_01–

Executive Sessions

01hr_AC–RAF_ES_pt00

Hearing Records

01hr_ab0375

01hr_sb0000

Misc.

01hr_AC–RAF_Misc_pt00

Record of Committee Proceedings

01hr_AC–RAF_RCP_pt00

01-10-02 PH AB 375, AB 600, AB 644

& ~~LRB 4244~~ & 4281 - Exec. AJR 51

AB 695 AB 696

AB 600

Committee Meeting Attendance Sheet

Assembly Committee on Rural Affairs and Forestry

Date: January 10, 2002 Meeting Type: Public Hearing
Location: 300 NE - State Capitol

<u>Committee Member</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Excused</u>
Rep. John Ainsworth, Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rep. Donald Friske	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rep. Stephen Freese	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rep. Gabe Loeffelholz	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rep. Tom Sykora	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rep. Barbara Gronemus	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rep. Mary Hubler	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rep. Marlin Schneider	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Totals:	<u>7</u>	<u>1</u>	<u> </u>

Kristina Boardman

Kristina Boardman, Committee Clerk

Committee Meeting Attendance Sheet

Assembly Committee on Rural Affairs and Forestry

Date: January 10, 2002 Meeting Type: Executive Session
Location: 300 NE - State Capitol

<u>Committee Member</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Excused</u>
Rep. John Ainsworth, Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rep. Donald Friske	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rep. Stephen Freese	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rep. Gabe Loeffelholz	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rep. Tom Sykora	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rep. Barbara Gronemus	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rep. Mary Hubler	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rep. Marlin Schneider	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Totals:	<u>7</u>	<u>1</u>	<u> </u>

Kristina Boardman
Kristina Boardman, Committee Clerk

AB 375

John in favor

Paul DeLong in favor

- doesn't ensure payment
or a good, quality
cutting

cost: 10% ??

AB 600

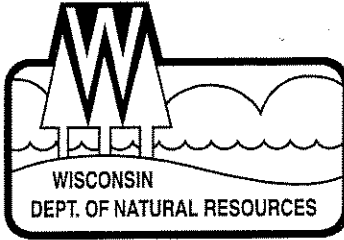
Kriske in favor

Paul DeLong in favor

school forests not included

~~Janette~~ Colette Matthews in favor
WCFA

Ray Guries - Soc. of American Foresters in favor



State of Wisconsin \ DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Scott McCallum, Governor
Darrell Bazzell, Secretary

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Assembly Bill 375

Assembly Committee on Rural Affairs & Forestry

Department of Natural Resources Testimony
Paul DeLong, Deputy Administrator
Division of Forestry
January 10, 2002

Mr. Chairman and Committee Members:

Good afternoon. My name is Paul DeLong and I am the Deputy Division Administrator of the Department of Natural Resources' Division of Forestry. I appreciate this opportunity to appear before you to discuss AB 375.

The Department of Natural Resources supports AB 375. This bill would require that anyone who is a party to contract forest products and who does provide a performance bond or other surety must notify DNR and provide DNR on an annual basis with information concerning the surety.

Private, non-industrial landowners control nearly 60% of the forest land base in this state. The sporadic occurrence of timber harvests for any one individual landowner leads to unfamiliarity and skepticism on the landowner's part. They often struggle in advertising for, and selecting, a reputable logging contractor. The assistance of a professional forester can be a great benefit in this process. However, presently only about 20% of landowners employ the services of a forester in the harvest of their timber. Organizations such as the Wisconsin Professional Loggers Association and the Wisconsin Woodland Owners Association can also be excellent sources of information for these landowners. The fact remains that most private timber sales are contracted for without the assistance of anyone familiar with the process on the seller's end.

Performance or surety bonds are required on timber harvests from state, federal or county forest lands. This is not the case on private timber sales although the assistance of a forester in the sale process usually leads to the inclusion of a bond. Because the presence of a list of bonded loggers would give landowners another tool to use in the selection of a logging contractor, the Department supports this bill.

However, it is important to point out that a performance bond does not ensure a satisfactory logging job. This bill would not assist landowners in collecting money due from loggers and there is no enforcement built into the bill should a logger not cooperate. Therefore, I think it is important not to interpret this bill as resolving concerns that private landowners may have with logging on their property. The Department would like to continue to work with this Committee and other parties dedicated to ensuring that landowners that harvest timber receive quality service. The Wisconsin Woodland Owners Association, the Wisconsin Professional Loggers Association and the Association of Consulting Foresters are three groups that can help identify how to best achieve this objective.

I appreciate this opportunity to discuss this bill and the underlying issue with you and would be glad to answer any questions you might have.