

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_ab0785

01hr_sb0000

Misc.

01hr_AC–RAF_Misc_pt00

Record of Committee Proceedings

01hr_AC–RAF_RCP_pt00

02-13-02 PH - AB785, AB786, AB787
— AB788, AB790
Exec - AB786, AB787, AB790

Committee Meeting Attendance Sheet

Assembly Committee on Rural Affairs and Forestry

Date: Feb. 13, 2002 Meeting Type: Public Hearing
Location: 328 Northwest - 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rep. Marlin Schneider	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Totals:	<u>8</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

Kristina Boardman
Kristina Boardman, Committee Clerk

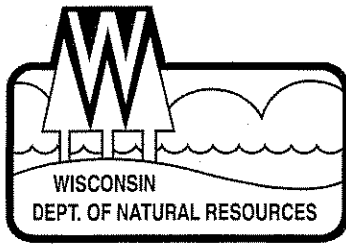
Committee Meeting Attendance Sheet

Assembly Committee on Rural Affairs and Forestry

Date: Feb. 13, 2002 Meeting Type: Public Executive Session
Location: 328 Northwest - 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rep. Marlin Schneider	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Totals:	<u>8</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

Kristina Boardman
Kristina Boardman, Committee Clerk



State of Wisconsin \ DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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Assembly Bill 785

Assembly Committee on Rural Affairs & Forestry

Department of Natural Resources Testimony
Robert Mather, Forest Lands Section Chief
Division of Forestry
February 13, 2002

Mr. Chairman and Committee Members:

Good morning. My name is Bob Mather and I am the Forest Lands Section Chief of the Department of Natural Resources' Division of Forestry. I appreciate this opportunity to appear before you to discuss AB 785.

The Department of Natural Resources supports the intent of AB 785 but estimates the internal costs may exceed the positive benefits. The bill requires counties with a county forest to file cutting reports with the Department of Natural Resources at the completion of a timber harvest or for ongoing harvests, at two-year intervals (a partial cutting report) until the cutting is completed. This reporting system allows the Department to collect a 20% severance tax on the value of wood harvested from county forest lands which repays the non-interest bearing loans the Department has made to that county. Under current law counties that have no loan balance are not required to pay the 20% severance tax but are required to file the partial cutting report.

An analysis of CY 2001 County Forest timber sale cutting reports indicates 74 of 126 partial reports filed by County Forests were from counties with a zero loan balance. It is estimated that the time required to file these reports is approximately 24 hours of which 2/3 would be Department foresters time and 1/3 would be county time at an estimated costs of \$600. Most of the time required to gather the information in order to file a partial cutting report is simply displaced and not saved because the same information must be gathered to be able to file the final cutting report. Passage of AB 785 will require the Department to modify the computer program that generates the severance bills at an estimated costs of \$6000 (100 hours @ \$60/hour contract programming).

The Department urges this Committee to consider to cost to implement AB 785 in its decision.

I appreciate this opportunity to express the Department's concerns with AB 785 and would be glad to answer any questions you might have.