

2005 SENATE BILL 683

April 10, 2006 – Introduced by Senators COWLES, ZIEN, LAZICH, BRESKE and HANSEN, cosponsored by Representatives MONTGOMERY, NERISON, HONADEL, ZEPNICK, MEYER, HUNDERTMARK, PETTIS, OTT, F. LASEE, MUSSER, VAN ROY and KREIBICH. Referred to Committee on Energy, Utilities and Information Technology.

1 **AN ACT** *to create* 26.03 (1v) of the statutes; **relating to:** the prohibition against
2 the harvest of raw forest products from tax delinquent lands and notice and
3 recording requirements for persons who harvest raw forest products.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, with certain exceptions, no person may harvest any raw forest products from any land for which taxes are delinquent. Current law also requires a person who proposes to harvest raw forest products to give the clerk of the county in which the land is located 14 days' notice of the intention to harvest the products. The clerk must then give notice to the town chairperson of each town in which the land is located and to the county treasurer. If the county treasurer determines that there are unpaid taxes on the land, the county treasurer must take action to collect the unpaid taxes or prevent the harvesting of the raw forest products. Current law also prohibits the purchaser of Indian reservation land or land to be placed upon the tax roll for the first time from harvesting raw forest products unless the purchaser first records the title to the land in the office of the register of deeds for the county in which the land is located.

This bill exempts certain entities from these current law provisions. Under the bill, these provisions do not apply to the harvesting of raw forest products for the purpose of establishing or maintaining a railroad track or structure, a pipeline, or a utility right-of-way by an alternative telecommunications utility, an electric cooperative, a public utility, a railroad, a telecommunications carrier, a telecommunications utility, or a corporation that transports natural gas, petroleum products, water, or sewage through pipelines.

