

SENATE BILL No. 342

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 14-23-4.

Synopsis: Timber management. Requires the department of natural resources to prepare and publish on the department's Internet web site a cost benefit analysis concerning the removal of merchantable timber from state forests. Provides that the department may not advertise or solicit bids for the removal of merchantable timber from a state forest until the cost benefit analysis has been published on the department's Internet web site for at least 30 days.

Effective: July 1, 2016.

Stoops

January 7, 2016, read first time and referred to Committee on Natural Resources.



Second Regular Session 119th General Assembly (2016)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2015 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

SENATE BILL No. 342

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning natural and cultural resources.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

- 1 SECTION 1. IC 14-23-4-3 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
2 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2016]: Sec. 3. (a) **Subject to**
3 **section 7 of this chapter**, the department may issue permits, execute
4 leases, or contract for the removal of merchantable timber from the
5 state forests under this chapter. A permit, lease, or contract must do the
6 following:
7 (1) Determine and fix the area within which it is lawful and in the
8 best interests of the state to permit the removal of timber.
9 (2) Specify the nature of the timber to be removed.
10 (b) A permit, lease, or contract must include specific provisions for
11 at least the following:
12 (1) Adequate fire prevention measures.
13 (2) The completion of harvesting operations, which includes the
14 disposition of the slash and repair of rights-of-way.
15 (3) Granting of rights-of-way.
16 (4) Compliance with rules adopted by the department to carry out
17 this chapter.



- 1 (5) Reports to the department by the person authorized to remove
2 the timber.
- 3 (6) Authorization for the state forester or the state forester's
4 designee to inspect the activities.
- 5 (7) Revocation of permits for failure to comply with any of the
6 following:
- 7 (A) This chapter.
- 8 (B) Rules adopted under this chapter.
- 9 SECTION 2. IC 14-23-4-7 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
10 AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY
11 1, 2016]: **Sec. 7. (a) Before the department may issue permits,
12 execute leases, or contract for the removal of merchantable timber
13 from the state forests under this chapter, the department shall
14 prepare a cost benefit analysis that uses the methodology and best
15 practices described in the United States Department of
16 Agriculture, Forest Service general technical report
17 PNW-GTR-361 (March 1996).**
- 18 **(b) The analysis required under subsection (a) must contain
19 delineated categories for the following:**
- 20 **(1) Department costs and benefits, including site preparation,
21 advertising, administrative and legal services, post harvest
22 site management, and payments received by the department.**
- 23 **(2) Other state agency and local government costs and
24 benefits, including any damage or excessive wear to roads,
25 bridges, or other infrastructure.**
- 26 **(3) Habitat costs and benefits, including effects on
27 biodiversity, promotion of game species, and habitat of
28 protected species and invasive species.**
- 29 **(4) Environmental costs and benefits, including effects on fire
30 suppression, erosion, soil compaction, and siltation and water
31 quality in the watershed area.**
- 32 **(5) Recreational costs and benefits, including the estimated
33 gain or loss of recreational users.**
- 34 **(6) Timber industry costs and benefits, including the effect on
35 employment and the sale of privately owned merchantable
36 timber.**
- 37 **(c) The analysis required under this section must be prepared
38 and published on the department's Internet web site at least thirty
39 (30) days before the department may advertise or solicit bids:**
- 40 **(1) for a permit;**
- 41 **(2) to execute a lease; or**
- 42 **(3) to contract;**



1 **for the removal of merchantable timber from a state forest.**

