

SENATE BILL 310

By Gresham

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 11
and Title 69, Chapter 3, Part 1, relative to the
practice of clear cutting in state forests.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 11, Chapter 4, Part 8, is amended by
adding the following as a new section:

11-4-8__.

(a) The commissioner of agriculture shall prohibit the forestry practice of
clear-cutting in all state forests. The department of agriculture shall not conduct
clear-cutting operations in state forests, nor permit any other person or lessee to
conduct clear-cutting operations in state forests.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a), clear-cutting may be
permitted in state forests in cases of natural disaster or insect infestation
provided that the department of agriculture has determined prior to any such
clear-cutting that it is a reasonable and appropriate response to such disaster or
infestation and that it is consistent with the department's duty to manage the
forests. Such clear-cutting may occur only in a manner approved in advance by
the department.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law and shall apply to all
contracts and leases entered into on or after such date, the public welfare requiring it.