

2020 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 392

BY REPRESENTATIVE MCFARLAND

AGRICULTURE/FOREST DEPT: Removes a specific function of the office of forestry and certain authority of the Louisiana Forestry Commission related to production and prices of forest tree seedlings grown by the department

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 36:628(F) and to repeal R.S. 3:4303, relative to the functions and  
3 duties of the office of forestry and the Louisiana Forestry Commission; to remove  
4 the function of seedling production from the office of forestry; to remove the  
5 Louisiana Forestry Commission's authority to set prices for the sale of forestry  
6 seedlings grown by the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry's  
7 nurseries; and to provide for related matters.

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

9 Section 1. R.S. 36:628(F) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

10 §628. Offices; purposes and functions

11 \* \* \*

12 F. The office of forestry, under the direction of the commissioner, shall  
13 perform the functions of the state relating to the practice of forestry, in accordance  
14 with the policies established by the forestry commission, including the  
15 administration and supervision of the programs of the state for the protection,  
16 management, and preservation of this natural resource ~~including the production of~~  
17 ~~seedlings and other propagation stock~~; shall execute the state laws relating to forestry

1 and reforestation; and shall cooperate with the United States Forest Service in  
2 accordance with law.

3 \* \* \*

4 Section 2. R.S. 3:4303 is hereby repealed in its entirety.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 392 Original

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McFarland

**Abstract:** Removes the production of seedlings and propagation stock as a function of the office of forestry. Also removes the authorization granted to the La. Forestry Commission to set prices for the sale of those forest tree seedlings grown by La. Department of Agriculture and Forestry (LDAF) nurseries.

Present law requires the office of forestry to perform functions relating to the practice of forestry including the administration and supervision of programs for the protection, management, and preservation of forests, which includes the production of seedlings and other propagation stock.

Proposed law removes the specific function of producing forest seedlings and propagation stock, but otherwise retains present law.

Present law authorizes the La. Forestry Commission to fix prices for the sale of forest tree seedlings, grown by LDAF nurseries, to landowners involved in forestry activities, and requires all receipts from such sale be retained and expended on department nurseries for purposes of scientific forestry research and experimentation, land acquisition, and general operations.

Proposed law repeals present law in its entirety.

(Amends R.S. 36:628(F); Repeals R.S. 3:4303)