

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 331

BY REPRESENTATIVE MCFARLAND

TAX/SEVERANCE TAX: Provides relative to the application of the timber severance tax

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 47:633(1) and (2), relative to tax administration; to provide for
3 the timing for scaling and measuring of trees, timber, and pulpwood for severance
4 tax purposes; to provide an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 47:633(1) and (2) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as
7 follows:

8 §633. Rates of tax

9 The taxes on natural resources severed from the soil or water levied by R.S.
10 47:631 shall be predicated on the quantity or value of the products or resources
11 severed and shall be paid at the following rates:

12 (1) On trees and timber, except pulpwood, two and one-quarter percent of
13 the then current average stumpage market value of such timber, to be determined
14 annually in December by the Louisiana Forestry Commission, such value to be
15 effective on the first day of January in the following year and continuing until the
16 next succeeding January. The Louisiana Tax Commission may assist in determining
17 the value. The average stumpage market value shall be applied to the weight or scale
18 of trees and timber as determined pursuant to the provisions of R.S. 3:4641 and 4642
19 at the last time the trees and timber are scaled prior to undergoing the first processing
20 after severance.

1 (2) On pulpwood, five percent of the then current average stumpage market
 2 value of such pulpwood, to be determined annually in December by the Louisiana
 3 Forestry Commission, such value to be effective on the first day of January in the
 4 following year and continuing until the next succeeding January. The Louisiana Tax
 5 Commission may assist in determining the value. The average stumpage market
 6 value shall be applied to the weight or scale of pulpwood as determined pursuant to
 7 the provisions of R.S. 3:4641 and 4642 at the last time the pulpwood is scaled prior
 8 to undergoing the first processing after severance.

9 * * *

10 Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
 11 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature
 12 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If
 13 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
 14 effective on the day following such approval.

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 331 Engrossed

2022 Regular Session

McFarland

Abstract: Provides relative to the timing for scaling and measuring trees, timber, and pulpwood for severance tax purposes.

Present law establishes the annual average stumpage market value on trees, timber, and pulpwood being severed from the soil and water within the state for the purpose of calculating the severance tax. Present law also establishes the Doyle Log Rule as the standard rule or scale for measurement of saw logs in the state.

Proposed law requires the annual stumpage market value to be applied to the weight or scale of the trees, timber, or pulpwood as determined by the Doyle Log Rule at the last time the trees, timber, or pulpwood are scaled prior to undergoing the first process after severance.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 47:633(1) and (2))