

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 327

BY REPRESENTATIVE MCFARLAND

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 3:4278.6, relative to timber harvesting operations; to require a written contract
3 or agreement to conduct certain timber harvesting operations; to require the
4 commissioner of agriculture and forestry to adopt rules and regulations; to authorize
5 the commissioner to impose penalties after an adjudicatory hearing; and to provide
6 for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 3:4278.6 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 §4278.6. Timber harvesting; rules; regulations; penalty

10 A. In addition to any other requirements provided by law, any person
11 conducting timber harvesting operations with the intent to cut five acres or more of
12 timberland shall enter into a written contract or agreement with the owner, purchaser,
13 or an agent or representative of either the owner or the purchaser of such timberland.

14 B. The commissioner of agriculture and forestry, with the advice of the
15 Louisiana Forestry Commission, shall adopt rules and regulations in accordance with
16 the Administrative Procedure Act to implement the provisions of this Section.

17 C.(1) The commissioner may impose a civil penalty of not more than five
18 thousand dollars for each instance of failure to comply with the provisions of this
19 Section.

1 (2) Each day on which a violation occurs shall be considered a separate
2 offense.

3 (3) Civil penalties may be assessed only by a ruling of the commissioner
4 based on an adjudicatory hearing held in accordance with the Administrative
5 Procedure Act.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____