

**HB 1909 - DIGEST**

(SUBSTITUTED FOR - SEE 1ST SUB)

Declares that, with the introduction of this act, the legislature intends to begin a conversation on proper revisions to chapter 76.48 RCW that streamlines the permitting system for specialized forest products and creates a more equitable and manageable situation for wood hobbyists, while maintaining the chapter's important protections that it provides to forest landowners.

Declares it is the intent for this act to be used by law enforcement authorities and others responsible for its implementation to pursue and prosecute those individuals that are genuinely engaged in the theft of large quantities of valuable forest materials, and not those individuals who are responsibly collecting wood or wood pieces from landowners who are aware and accepting of the collection. The legislature urges prosecutorial discretion where warranted and the consideration of all factors involved with a situation before bringing a criminal action under this act.