

FINAL BILL REPORT

SHB 1254

C 187 L 11
Synopsis as Enacted

Brief Description: Regarding the institute of forest resources.

Sponsors: House Committee on Agriculture & Natural Resources (originally sponsored by Representatives Lytton, Blake, Takko, Van De Wege, Ladenburg and Rolfes).

House Committee on Agriculture & Natural Resources
Senate Committee on Natural Resources & Marine Waters

Background:

The Legislature created the Institute of Forest Products (IFP) under the Department of Conservation and Development in 1947. Legislation was enacted to transfer the administration of the IFP to the Board of Regents of the University of Washington (UW) in 1959. The IFP was renamed the Institute of Forest Resources (IFR) in 1959 and was made responsible for pursuing research and education related to forest resources and its multiple uses.

Summary:

The authorizing statues for the IFR are amended both technically, to modernize the language, and substantively. These changes include correcting the title of the chief administer of the UW's forest resource program, directing that person to coordinate the various cooperatives and centers located administratively within the UW to broaden the UW's forest products research and outreach, and providing the authority for the creation of an 11-member policy advisory board.

The direction to the IFR is expanded to clarify that its mission is to pursue coordinated research related to the forestry sector in both urban and rural areas. The mission of the IFR is expanded to consider traditional forestry issues along with emerging issues such as environmental services, sustainable management, and forest restoration.

The IFR is also directed to provide a framework for identifying, prioritizing, funding, and conducting interdisciplinary research critical to the forest sector and for synthesizing complex forestry issues and information into tools that aid policymakers.

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

Direction is given for the IFR to utilize appropriated funds that are distinct from the general appropriation for the UW. The IFR is provided additional mechanisms for raising funds such as the receipt of conveyances and bequests. The IFR may also solicit contracts for work, in-kind and financial contributions, and support from public and private grantees.

Votes on Final Passage:

House	97	0	
Senate	46	0	(Senate amended)
House	96	0	(House concurred)

Effective: July 22, 2011