
HOUSE BILL 1857

State of Washington

52nd Legislature

1991 Regular Session

By Representatives Riley, Jones, Belcher, Wilson, Spanel and Sheldon;
by request of Washington Hardwoods Commission.

Read first time February 12, 1991. Referred to Committee on Trade &
Economic Development.

1 AN ACT Relating to the hardwood commission; amending RCW 15.74.030
2 and 15.74.060; adding a new section to chapter 15.74 RCW; and declaring
3 an emergency.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 15.74.030 and 1990 c 142 s 4 are each amended to read
6 as follows:

7 The commission shall have the power to elect a chair and such
8 officers as the commission deems necessary and advisable. The
9 commission shall elect a treasurer who shall be responsible for all
10 receipts and disbursements by the commission. The treasurer's faithful
11 discharge of duties shall be guaranteed by a bond at the sole expense
12 of the commission. The commission shall adopt rules for its
13 governance, which shall provide for the holding of an annual meeting
14 for the election of officers and the transaction of other business and
15 for such other meetings as the commission may direct. The commission

1 shall do all things reasonably necessary to effect the purposes of this
2 chapter. The commission shall have no legislative power. The
3 commission may employ and discharge managers, secretaries, agents,
4 attorneys, and other employees or staff, and may engage the services of
5 independent contractors, prescribe their duties, and fix their
6 compensation. Each member of the board shall be compensated in
7 accordance with RCW 43.03.240 and shall be reimbursed for travel
8 expenses at the rates allowed state employees in accordance with RCW
9 43.03.050 and 43.03.060.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 15.74 RCW
11 to read as follows:

12 Any due and payable assessment levied under this chapter in such
13 specified amount as may be determined by the commission shall
14 constitute a personal debt of every person so assessed or who otherwise
15 owes the same, and the same shall be due and payable to the commission
16 when payment is called for by the commission. In the event any person
17 fails to pay the commission the full amount of such assessment or such
18 other sum on or before the date due, the commission may, and is hereby
19 authorized to, add to such unpaid assessment or sum an amount not
20 exceeding ten percent of the same to defray the cost of enforcing the
21 collecting of the same. In the event of failure of such person or
22 persons to pay any such due and payable assessment or other such sum,
23 the commission may bring a civil action against such person or persons
24 in a court of competent jurisdiction for the collection thereof,
25 together with the above specified ten percent thereon, and such action
26 shall be tried and judgment rendered as in any other cause of action
27 for debt due and payable.

1 **Sec. 3.** RCW 15.74.060 and 1990 c 142 s 7 are each amended to read
2 as follows:

3 To provide for permanent funding of the Washington hardwoods
4 commission, agricultural commodity assessments shall be levied by the
5 commission on processors and handlers of hardwoods. (~~The commission~~
6 ~~shall determine by December 31, 1990, a method and rate of assessment~~
7 ~~on processors as well as a work plan for the commission.~~ The
8 commission shall report to the natural resource and revenues committees
9 of each house of the legislature at that time.))

10 An assessment is hereby levied upon hardwoods processed or handled
11 in this state at the point of first sale to a processor or at a
12 designated point of measurement in lieu of the point of first sale.
13 The assessment on hardwoods shall be twenty-five cents per one thousand
14 board feet Scribner log scale or equivalent, or 7.25 green tons per
15 thousand board feet Scribner log scale. If the volume or weight of
16 hardwoods processed or handled is less than one hundred thousand board
17 feet Scribner log scale or equivalent per calendar quarter at the point
18 of levy assessment, no assessment may be levied. The commission shall
19 have the authority to collect the assessments. Assessment shall be
20 remitted to the commission on a quarterly basis beginning on January 1,
21 1992. All assessments in a quarter are due to the commission within
22 forty-five days after the quarter.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** This act is necessary for the immediate
24 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
25 state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take
26 effect immediately.