H-3260.3

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**HOUSE BILL 2553**

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**State of Washington 65th Legislature 2018 Regular Session**

**By** Representatives Blake, Orcutt, Morris, and Hargrove

AN ACT Relating to adjusting assessments levied on hardwood processors; amending RCW 15.74.060; and providing an effective date.

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

**Sec.**  RCW 15.74.060 and 1991 c 67 s 3 are each amended to read as follows:

To provide for permanent funding of the Washington hardwoods commission, agricultural commodity assessments shall be levied by the commission on processors of hardwoods.

An assessment is hereby levied on hardwood processors operating within the state of Washington. The assessment ((~~categories~~)) shall be based on the hardwood processor's production per calendar quarter. The assessment shall be ((~~levied based upon the following schedule:~~

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ~~Category~~ | ~~Quarterly~~  ~~Production~~  ~~(Thousand Tons)~~ | ~~Quarterly~~  ~~Assessment~~ | |
| ~~1~~ | ~~5 to 7.5~~ | ~~$ 150~~ |  |
| ~~2~~ | ~~7.5 to 15~~ | ~~$ 300~~ |  |
| ~~3~~ | ~~15 to 25~~ | ~~$ 600~~ |  |
| ~~4~~ | ~~25 to 35~~ | ~~$ 900~~ |  |
| ~~5~~ | ~~35 to 45~~ | ~~$ 1,200~~ |  |
| ~~6~~ | ~~45 to 62.5~~ | ~~$ 1,500~~ |  |
| ~~7~~ | ~~62.5 to 82.5~~ | ~~$ 2,250~~ |  |
| ~~8~~ | ~~82.5 to 125~~ | ~~$ 3,000~~ |  |
| ~~9~~ | ~~125 to 175~~ | ~~$ 4,500~~ |  |
| ~~10~~ | ~~175 to 250~~ | ~~$ 6,000~~ |  |
| ~~11~~ | ~~250 to 350~~ | ~~$ 9,000~~ |  |
| ~~12~~ | ~~350 to 450~~ | ~~$12,000~~ |  |
| ~~13~~ | ~~450 to 625~~ | ~~$15,000~~ |  |
| ~~14~~ | ~~625 to 875~~ | ~~$22,500~~ |  |
| ~~15~~ | ~~875 to 1125~~ | ~~$30,000~~ |  |
| ~~16~~ | ~~Over 1125~~ | ~~$35,000~~)) |  |

four cents per ton produced.

The commission may develop by rule formulas for converting other units of measure to ((~~thousands of~~)) tons of production for determining the appropriate production ((~~category~~)) per calendar quarter. The assessment shall be calculated based upon calendar quarters ((~~with the first assessment period beginning July 1, 1991~~)). Beginning July 1, 2019, and every July 1st thereafter, the assessment must be adjusted to reflect the percentage change in the implicit price deflator for personal consumption expenditures for the United States as published for the most recent twelve-month period by the bureau of economic analysis of the federal department of commerce by September 25th of the year before the assessments are payable.

NEW SECTION. **Sec.**  This act takes effect July 1, 2018.

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