
By: **Delegates Montgomery, Barkley, Barve, Bobo, Bronrott, Frush,
Glassman, Hubbard, Moe, and Parker**

Introduced and read first time: February 9, 2004

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Natural Resources - Logging Impact Report**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Natural Resources to submit, on or
4 before a certain date and periodically thereafter, a report to the General
5 Assembly on logging activities in the State; requiring certain information
6 related to logging activities to be included in certain reports; defining certain
7 terms; and generally relating to reporting on logging activities in the State.

8 BY adding to
9 Article - Natural Resources
10 Section 5-104
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (2000 Replacement Volume and 2003 Supplement)

13 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
14 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

15 **Article - Natural Resources**

16 5-104.

17 (A) IN THIS SECTION, "LOGGING" MEANS THE CUTTING AND REMOVING OF
18 TREE STEMS FROM A SITE FOR COMMERCIAL PURPOSES, LEAVING THE ROOT MASS
19 INTACT.

20 (B) ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 2005 AND EVERY 3 YEARS THEREAFTER, THE
21 DEPARTMENT SHALL SUBMIT A LOGGING IMPACT REPORT TO THE GENERAL
22 ASSEMBLY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1246 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE.

23 (C) (1) THE INITIAL LOGGING IMPACT REPORT SHALL DETAIL THE
24 CUMULATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS FROM LOGGING ACTIVITIES OVER THE
25 LAST 30 YEARS ON STATE FOREST RESERVES, INCLUDING AN ASSESSMENT OF:

26 (I) FOREST FRAGMENTATION; AND

- 1 (II) THE IMPACT OF LOGGING AND LOGGING ROADS ON:
- 2 1. FOREST SPECIES; AND
- 3 2. WATER QUALITY.

4 (2) SUBSEQUENT LOGGING IMPACT REPORTS SHALL:

5 (I) DESCRIBE THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF LOGGING ON
6 STATE FOREST RESERVES DURING THE PRIOR 3 YEARS;

7 (II) DESCRIBE HOW LOGGING ACTIVITIES AND LOGGING
8 REGULATIONS HAVE CHANGED DURING THE PRIOR 3 YEARS; AND

9 (III) IN CONSULTATION WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
10 ENVIRONMENTAL COMMUNITY, MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE GENERAL
11 ASSEMBLY ON METHODS OF REDUCING AND CORRECTING NEGATIVE
12 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS RESULTING FROM LOGGING ACTIVITIES.

13 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
14 October 1, 2004.