

SENATE BILL 771

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2004 Regular Session  
4r3012  
CF HB 867

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By: **Senator Pinsky**  
Introduced and read first time: February 13, 2004  
Assigned to: Rules

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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

27 (II) THE IMPACT OF LOGGING AND LOGGING ROADS ON:

1                                   1.       FOREST SPECIES; AND

2                                   2.       WATER QUALITY.

3                   (2)       SUBSEQUENT LOGGING IMPACT REPORTS SHALL:

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

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

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

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