

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1944

H. P. 1758

House of Representatives, June 20, 1975

Approved for introduction by a Majority of the Committee on Reference of Bills pursuant to Joint Rule 10. Referred to Committee on Agriculture. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Martin of Eagle Lake.

Cosponsors: Mr. Smith of Dover-Foxcroft, Mr. Hall of Sangerville, Mr. Finemore of Bridgewater

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-FIVE

AS ACT to Establish Uniform Standards for the Measurement of Wood.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:

Sec. 1. 10 MRSA c. 501, sub-c. II-A is enacted to read:

SUBCHAPTER II-A

MEASUREMENT OF WOOD

§ 2361. Definition of wood

“Wood,” as used in this subchapter, includes, but is not limited to, pulpwood, boltwood, sawlogs and sawlogs when sawed for pulp.

§ 2362. Measurement for wood

1. Weight scale. The final measurement used in all transactions involving the sale of wood shall be weight scale, as provided in section 2363, or by cubic foot measure, as provided in section 2302.

2. Butt scale. Butt scale may be used as a measurement in transactions involving the sale of wood only to determine partial payment until the wood sold can be scaled pursuant to subsection 1.

§ 2363. Standards for weight scale

1. Established by State Sealer of Weights and Measures. The State Sealer of Weights and Measures shall, after a public hearing preceded by at least 2 weeks' notice in the state paper, establish standards for the weight scale re-

quired under section 2362, subsection 1. These standards shall include adjustments for the moisture content of wood, to be expressed by a weight-moisture content ratio.

2. Moisture content test. The State Sealer of Weights and Measures shall, after a public hearing preceded by at least 2 weeks' notice in the state paper, adopt and promulgate a wood moisture content test, which shall be used in all weight scaling of wood in order to determine the weight-moisture content ratio established under subsection 1.

§ 2364. Standards for butt scale

The State Sealer of Weights and Measures shall, after a public hearing preceded by at least 2 weeks' notice in the state paper, adopt and promulgate a standard butt scale which shall be used for all butt scaling permitted under section 2362, subsection 2.

§ 2365. Bangor Log Rule the official log scale rule

The Bangor Log Rule shall be the official log scale rule in the State of Maine for determination of the number of board feet in logs.

§ 2366. Standards for measurement

The State Sealer of Weights and Measures may, after a public hearing preceded by at least 2 weeks' notice in the state paper, adopt and promulgate such rules and regulations concerning the standards for measurement of wood established under this subchapter and the administration and use of those standards as are necessary to ensure that those standards conform to contemporary knowledge and practice concerning the measurement of wood to be sold and to ensure that those standards may be efficiently and conveniently applied in transactions in Maine involving the sale of wood.

Sec. 2. 30 MRSA § 3662 is repealed.

Sec. 3. 30 MRSA § 3662-A, as enacted by PL 1965, c. 321, is repealed.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill establishes the modes of scale to be used for the measurement of wood in sale transactions, permits the use of butt scale only until wood can be finally scaled, establishes a standard weight scale and butt scale to be used in all wood sale transactions in Maine and provides for a weight-moisture ratio to be used in weight scaling.

There have recently been numerous complaints that the scale used by various buyers of wood in Maine differs from area to area and therefore the same amount of wood delivered to different buyers in different areas will bring different prices simply because the quantity of wood as measured by the buyers will differ from area to area. It is, therefore, necessary to establish a uniform standard throughout Maine to govern the measurement of wood which can be relied upon by all wood sellers.