

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1689

H. P. 1480

House of Representatives, April 26, 1977

Reported by Mr. Mahany from the Committee on Agriculture. Pursuant to H. P. 1710 printed under Joint Rules No. 17. Filed by the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture under Joint Rule 17, pursuant to House Paper 1710.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-SEVEN

AN ACT to Amend the Law Establishing Uniform Standards for the
Measurement of Wood.

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

Sec. 1. 10 MRSA § 2362, sub-§ 1, as enacted by PL 1975, c. 598, § 1, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

1. **Weight scale.** In all transactions in which payment for wood is based upon the weight of the wood, the weight shall not be converted to volume, and payment shall be made according to weight only except that wood cut but not weighed for 30 days or longer shall be measured by volume and except that wood less than tree length may be sold by volume at the request of the seller.

Sec. 2. 10 MRSA § 2363, as enacted by PL 1975, c. 598, § 1, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

§ 2363. **Regulations for use of butt scale**

The State Sealer of Weights and Measures shall, after a public hearing preceded by at least 2 weeks' notice in 3 daily newspapers in Maine, adopt and promulgate regulations for the use of butt scale for the measurement of wood.

Sec. 3. 10 MRSA § 2364, as enacted by PL 1975, c. 598, § 1, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

§ 2364. **Official State Log Rule**

The International Log Rule shall be the standard state rule for the measurement of logs. Nothing in this section, however, shall prevent the use of any other log rule which is mutually agreeable to all parties concerned.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The intent of this bill is to make the existing wood measurement law practicable. Presently, the law requires a moisture content test to determine the moisture content of trees to be used in the determination of wood weight in the conversion of tree weights to cords. Specific standards of weights for each specie of trees, cannot be established because the existing technology has not developed a method to determine tree weights. Since payment for wood sold by weight is made by weight only at the present time, this bill permits the present system of payment to continue.

The bill also establishes the International Log Rule as the standard rule to be used by the State Sealer of Weights and Measures. Any log rule can be used for log measurement as long as all parties agree.

This bill allows wood buyers and wood sellers to formulate agreements that are mutually agreeable in regard to wood that has been cut, but not measured for a long period of time.