

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

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NO. 2088

 H.P. 1534 House of Representatives, January 19, 1988 Approved for introduction by a majority of the
Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 26. Reference to the Committee on Energy and Natural
Resources suggested and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk Presented by Representative DEXTER of Kingfield. Cosponsored by Representatives GOULD of Greenville, RIDLEY of Shapleigh and Senator USHER of Cumberland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-EIGHT

AN ACT to Allow Deductions for Merchantability Factors in Wood Measurement.

4 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as 5 follows:

6 10 MRSA §2364-A, sub-§§2 and 3, as enacted by 7 PL 1983, c. 804, §7, are amended to read:

2. Measurements. In all wood transactions, no

Page 1-LR3908

person who scales or measures wood and no person who 1 2 makes payment to another shall may represent a weight, volume, quantity or dimension of wood which is 3 4 less than the weight, volume, quantity or dimension of 5 wood to be measured.

6 When payment is made for services harvesting Α. 7 wood, all wood that is properly prepared shall be measured in full, without regard to its future merchantability or use according to procedures 8 9 10 forth in section 2363-A and according set to standards established by the state sealer under this section. Nothing in this subsection prevents 11 12 13 making reasonable deductions based on quantity 14 factors, such as for loose piling, short or 15 wood or wood was undersized for that not harvested, hauled or chipped. 16 designated to be 17 Nothing in this subchapter may prevent making reasonable deductions based on quality or quantity 18 factors, such as merchantability, loose piling, 19 20 short or undersized wood or for wood that was not 21 designated to be harvested, hauled or chipped. Nothing in this subchapter may be interpreted to prohibit the use of the standard cord or butt 22 23 24 measure. Disputes shall be governed by section 25 2366-A.

26 The written cutting and hauling specifications в. 27 for properly prepared tree stems shall be provided to the person providing the service and, shall be signed by the person requiring the service and 28 29 30 shall specify the method of measurement and all 31 merchantability factors for which deductions may 32 be taken.

33 e-When payment is made for services in hauling 34 or trucking wood, all wood that was designated to 35 be hauled and which was hauled, shall be measured 36 in-full.

37 D. In the sale of wood, all wood that meets the specifications of the parties shall be measured by 38 39 the terms of the sales contract according to the 40 measurement procedures set forth in section 2363-A 41 that are applicable to a sale of wood, as defined

Page 2-LR3908

in this subchapter.

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E. When payment is made for services, payment shall be expressed in the same system of measure that was used in making the measurement. Nothing in this subsection may be interpreted to prohibit the use of the standard cord or butt measure.

7 3. Measurement tally sheet. When payment is made 8 for services, the person providing the service shall promptly receive a copy of the tally sheet from the person requiring the service setting forth the total 9 10 11 measure of wood, the measure of any deductions taken, identifying the person or persons providing the 12 13 service, the location from which the wood was hauled 14 and the date the measurements were made. If, based 15 upon a complaint involving wood that is taken outside the State, the state sealer, after investigation, has 16 17 reason to believe that there has been inaccurate 18 measurement of the wood, that the measurement of the 19 wood was inaccurately or incompletely represented on the measurement tally sheet or that a measurement 20 tally sheet for the wood was not promptly provided to 21 22 the person providing the service, then, except in a case of inadvertent error, the state sealer shall require, for a period of not less than one year, that 23 24 25 the person requiring the service measure and provide 26 the person providing the service a completed measurement tally sheet for wood that is taken outside 27 28 the State.

STATEMENT OF FACT

30 This bill is a result of public hearings held 31 during the summer of 1986 by the Wood Measurement 32 Study Subcommitee of the Joint Standing Committee on 33 Energy and Natural Resources. The public hearings 34 were held in Dover-Foxcroft, Ashland, South Paris and 35 Alfred.

The purpose of this bill is to allow deductions to be taken from gross scale as long as the method of deduction is consistent with the measurement method employed and that both are approved by the state

Page 3-LR3908

1 sealer in the same manner as is currently employed for 2 measurement in sales situations. It is the intent of 3 the Legislature that accountability and standardized 4 procedures be employed in all wood measurements in 5 both sales and service situations.

6 The method of calculating deduction must be 7 specified in the cutting or hauling specifications 8 given to the service provider. The amount of 9 deduction must be included on the measurement tally 10 sheets along with the gross scale measurement.

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Page 4-LR3908