

5298

Sponsor(s): Senators Morton and Doumit; by request of Commissioner of Public Lands

Brief Description: Limiting the impact on small forest landowners caused by forest road maintenance and abandonment requirements. Revised for 1st Substitute: Defining a "small forest landowner" for the purposes of chapter 76.09 RCW.

SB 5298 - DIGEST

(SEE ALSO PROPOSED 1ST SUB)

Finds that the 1999 act known as the forests and fish law contains a requirement for all forest landowners to complete a road maintenance and abandonment plan. In the time since the law's 1999 enactment, it has become clear that the road maintenance and abandonment plan requirement may cause an unforeseen and unintended disproportionate financial hardship on small forest landowners.

Finds that the commissioner of public lands and the governor have explored solutions that minimize the hardship caused to small forest landowners by the forest road maintenance and abandonment requirements of the forests and fish law, while maintaining protection for public resources.

Declares that this act represents the bulk of the recommendations stemming from that process.