

State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-NINTH SESSION

H. F. No. 1756

03/11/2015 Authored by Dill

The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Commerce and Regulatory Reform

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to workers' compensation; clarifying coverage under the targeted logging
1.3 industry fund; amending Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 176.130, subdivision 1.

1.4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.5 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 176.130, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

1.6 Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** For purposes of this section, the following terms have
1.7 the meanings given them, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning.

1.8 (a) "Commissioner" means the commissioner of labor and industry, unless otherwise
1.9 provided.

1.10 (b) "Logger" means the following occupations:

1.11 (1) timber fellers: those who employ chainsaws or other mechanical devices
1.12 mounted on logging vehicles to fell or delimb trees;

1.13 (2) buckers or chippers: those who cut trees into merchantable lengths with either
1.14 chainsaws or heavier machinery, including slashers, harvesters, and processors;

1.15 (3) skidders or forwarders: those who either drag logs or trees to roadside landings, or
1.16 load and transport logs or short wood (fuel wood or pulp wood) to similar destinations; and

1.17 (4) timber harvesters or processors: those who combine two or more of the
1.18 operations listed in clauses (1) to (3).

1.19 (c) "Logging industry" means loggers and employers of loggers.

1.20 (d) "Wood mill" means the primary processors of wood, woody biomass, or wood
1.21 chips ~~including~~. Processor includes, but is not limited to, primary manufacturers who do
1.22 the initial processing of wood purchased from loggers, hard board manufacturers, wafer
1.23 board or oriented strand board manufacturers, pulp and paper manufacturers, sawmills,

2.1 and ~~other primary manufacturers who do the initial processing of wood purchased from~~
2.2 ~~loggers~~ converters of wood or woody biomass to energy or any other type of bioproduct.

2.3 (e) "Insurer" means an insurance company that provides workers' compensation
2.4 coverage for loggers, including the Minnesota assigned risk plan.

2.5 (f) "Qualified employer" means a self-employed logger, or an employer of a logger,
2.6 who has paid a premium for workers' compensation insurance coverage for the preceding
2.7 calendar year and who has attended, or whose logger employees have attended, in the
2.8 preceding calendar year, at least one safety seminar sponsored by or approved by the
2.9 commissioner.

2.10 (g) "Rebate" means amounts allocated and paid to qualified employers under
2.11 subdivision 6.