

SENATE BILL 2261

By Kyle

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 11,  
Chapter 4, relative to the Tennessee Forestry Act.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 11-4-103, is amended by adding the following language as new appropriately designated subdivisions:

( ) "Carbon sequestration" is the removal and long-term storage of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere through the use of natural carbon sinks, primarily in the forests in the form of increasing plant biomass.

( ) "Forestry best management practices" means those land and water resource conservation measures that prevent, limit, or eliminate water pollution for forest resource management purposes, as provided in rules promulgated in accordance with § 11-4-301(d)(18);

( ) "Greenhouse gases" means carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons, and sulfur hexafluoride.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 11-4-901, is amended by designating the existing language as subsection (a) and adding the following language as a new subsection:

(b) The division is authorized to establish a system for carbon sequestration registration in the interest of the landowners of the state in the event that markets are favorable to carbon credit trading. Such a carbon sequestration registration system shall operate to:

(1) Encourage voluntary actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions;

(2) Enable participants to voluntarily record carbon sequestrations made

in a consistent format that is certified;

(3) Ensure that sources in the state receive appropriate consideration for certified carbon sequestration results under any future federal or international regulatory regime relating to greenhouse gas emissions;

(4) Recognize, publicize, and promote participation in the registry; and

(5) Recruit broad participation in the process from all economic sectors and regions of the state.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.