

# HOUSE RESEARCH

## Bill Summary

**FILE NUMBER:** H.F. 299

**DATE:** January 26, 2007

**Version:** As introduced

**Authors:** Dill

**Subject:** Timber Permit Changes

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### Overview

Amends timber statutes for the state's Executive Council, if and when the Executive Council determines that market conditions for timber products have noticeably declined, making it economically infeasible for timber permit holders to cut under the terms of the permit, to allow the Council to direct the Commissioner of Natural Resources to:

- On nontrust lands, renegotiate the terms of the eligible timber permits when requested by the permit holder, including refunds of the down payment, surety bond, or cash security deposit; and
- On trust lands, renegotiate the timber permit terms as above, only to the extent that the renegotiation secures the maximum long-term economic return from the lands according to law.

Defines "eligible timber permit," for purposes of this bill, as a timber harvesting permit issued for timber sales or processing in the affected market either prior to the start of or during the actual decline of the timber market segment.