

# **WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE**

**2021 REGULAR SESSION**

**Committee Substitute**

**for**

**House Bill 3072**

BY DELEGATES STEELE AND FOSTER

[Originating in the Committee on Government

Organization; March 26, 2021]



1 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section,  
2 designated §19-1A-7, and to amend said code by adding thereto a new section designated  
3 §30-19-18, both relating to permitting the Director of the Division of Forestry to maintain a  
4 list of foresters in the state of West Virginia; defining the educational criteria for a person  
5 to be considered a forester or forestry technician; allowing for rulemaking; and establishing  
6 a sunset provision.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

## **CHAPTER 19. AGRICULTURE.**

### **ARTICLE 1A. DIVISION OF FORESTRY.**

#### **§19-1A-7. Maintaining a voluntary list of foresters; rulemaking.**

1 (a) The Director of the Division of Forestry may maintain a list of consulting foresters and  
2 forest technicians in this state meeting the educational criteria to be considered a forester or forest  
3 technician in this state and publish such list on its website in a clear location. To be considered a  
4 forester, a person must have a four-year bachelor's degree or equivalent from an accredited  
5 forestry or related program from any college or university. To be considered a forest technician,  
6 a person must hold a two-year associate degree or equivalent from a school with an accredited  
7 forestry technician or related program.

8 (b) Any person who is or holds himself or herself out to be a forester or forest technician  
9 may submit information reasonably required by the director to cause his or her name to be placed  
10 on a list maintained on the Division of Forestry's website. Nothing in this section requires the  
11 director to place a person on a voluntary list.

12 (c) The division may prescribe rules pursuant to §29A-3-1 et seq., of this code relating to  
13 forms and applications to be placed on the list and may prescribe a rule to collect a fee from any  
14 person desiring to be placed on the list for the sole purpose of cost recovery.

## CHAPTER 30. PROFESSIONS AND OCCUPATIONS.

### ARTICLE 19. FORESTERS.

#### §30-19-18. Sunset provision; effective date.

15           The state Board of Registration of Foresters established in this article shall terminate on  
16 June 30, 2022, unless continued by the Legislature. Pursuant to the provisions of §4-10-12 and  
17 §4-10-13 of this code the board shall commence all necessary activities pertinent to the wind-up  
18 of all board related activities. This section shall become effective July 1, 2021.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to sunset the Board of Registered Foresters and to permit the Division of Forestry to maintain a voluntary list of foresters in this state that consumers may search to engage in certain forest activities.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from a heading or the present law and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.