

S.94

An act relating to licensing state forestland for maple sugar production

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1. MAPLE SUGAR LICENSES ON STATE FORESTLAND

(a) The commissioner of forests, parks and recreation shall adopt a procedure under which the commissioner shall issue additional licenses for the use of state forestland for the tapping of maple trees, the collection of maple sap, and the transport of such sap to a processing site located off state forestland or to sites located on state forest land if approved by the commissioner. The procedure shall include guidelines for the tapping of maple trees. In developing the procedure required by this section, the commissioner of forests, parks and recreation shall consult with the Vermont Maple Sugar Makers Association, Inc., the Vermont Forest Products Association, and other interested parties. The commissioner under the authority set forth in 10 V.S.A. § 1603 shall charge a fee per tap for a license granted under the program required by this section.

(b) On or before January 15, 2010, the commissioner shall submit the procedure required under subsection (a) of this section to the senate and house committees on natural resources and energy and the senate and house committees on agriculture.