

Dear Ms. Diehl,

I am an SAF Certified Forester no. 1934, and have been actively practicing forestry on private and public lands in VT since 1970. I am in favor of forester licensing, but wish to express concern about two provisions in the current bill.

First, in SS 4904, par. 3, the definition of direct supervision is onerous. It should not be necessary for the license-holder to be on-site and immediately available to an employee at all times. It would be unwise to entrust an employee with duties which he may perform improperly so as to jeopardize the license, and the license-holder must be prepared to fully accept responsibility for the performance of employees. I believe an appropriate comparison can be made with the field duties of surveying or engineering wherein the license-holder is fully and absolutely accountable for the service provided, but need not be physically present at all times.

Second, in SS 4921 re: qualifications, in par. 2 and 3 a person with a degree in a forestry-related field or a person with an associate's degree are required to show experience, but persons with a degree in forestry who pass the CF exam (par. 1) are not required, in the text of this act, to show experience. A review of the CF requirements indicates that applicants for the CF exam must have 5 yrs experience. If this is not an oversight in drafting, it may be appropriate to confirm, during deliberations, that 5 years' experience is necessary for licensure.

Thank you for your consideration of these matters

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