

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 655

To exempt certain 16- and 17-year-old individuals employed in logging operations from child labor laws.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 15, 2017

Mr. RISCH (for himself and Mr. KING) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To exempt certain 16- and 17-year-old individuals employed in logging operations from child labor laws.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Future Logging Ca-
5 reers Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. CHILD LABOR LAW EXEMPTIONS FOR LOGGING OP-**
7 **ERATIONS.**

8 The Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C.
9 201 et seq.) is amended—

1 (1) in section 3 (29 U.S.C. 203), by adding at
2 the end the following:

3 “(z) ‘Logging operation’—

4 “(1) means —

5 “(A) a mechanized operation;

6 “(B) the bucking or converting of timber into
7 logs, poles, ties, bolts, pulpwood, chemical wood, ex-
8 celsior wood, cordwood, fence posts, or similar prod-
9 ucts;

10 “(C) the collecting, skidding, yarding, loading,
11 transporting, or unloading of such products in con-
12 nection with the activities described in this para-
13 graph;

14 “(D) the constructing, repairing, or maintain-
15 ing of—

16 “(i) roads or camps used in connection
17 with the activities described in this paragraph;
18 or

19 “(ii) machinery or equipment used in the
20 activities described in this paragraph; or

21 “(E) any other work performed in connection
22 with the activities described in this paragraph; and

23 “(2) does not include the manual use of chainsaws
24 to fell or process timber or the use of cable skidders to
25 bring the timber to the landing.

1 “(aa) ‘Mechanized operation’—

2 “(1) means the felling, skidding, yarding, loading, or
3 processing of timber by equipment other than manually
4 operated chainsaws or cable skidders; and

5 “(2) includes the use of whole tree processors, cut-
6 to-length processors, stroke boom delimbers, wheeled and
7 track feller-bunchers, pull-through delimbers, wheeled and
8 track forwarders, chippers, grinders, mechanical
9 debarkers, wheeled and track grapple skidders, yarders,
10 bulldozers, excavators, and log loaders.”; and

11 (2) in section 13(c) (29 U.S.C. 213(c)), by add-
12 ing at the end the following:

13 “(8) The provisions of section 12 relating to child
14 labor shall apply to an employee who is 16 or 17 years
15 old employed in a logging operation in an occupation that
16 the Secretary of Labor finds and declares to be particu-
17 larly hazardous for the employment of children ages 16
18 or 17, except where such employee is employed by his par-
19 ent or by a person standing in the place of his parent in
20 a logging operation owned or operated by such parent or
21 person.”.

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