

FISCAL NOTE

SB 322 - HB 1169

February 19, 1997

SUMMARY OF BILL: Enacts the *Tennessee Sustainable Forest Management and Economic Development Act of 1997* which directs the Division of Forestry to: (1) initiate development of an inventory and assessment model with capabilities to analyze forest resource utilization and associated economic and environmental impacts and to incorporate geographic information system technology; (2) evaluate alternative funding sources for the Division of Forestry programs; (3) establish a comprehensive demonstration program throughout the state forest system relative to promoting technology and management techniques which might be applicable to non-industrial private forest lands; and (4) Directs the University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture to study the feasibility of establishing a Forest Products Laboratory and Technology Development Center.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures - Not Significant

The Department of Agriculture indicates that most of the directives contained in this Act have been accomplished or are in the process of implementation.

The University of Tennessee has already conducted a feasibility study and determined such a center would be beneficial.

For information purposes, the cost to operate a Forest Products Center at the University of Tennessee is estimated to be approximately \$450,000. Bill does not mandate the operation of Forest Products Center.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James A. Davenport, Executive Director

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