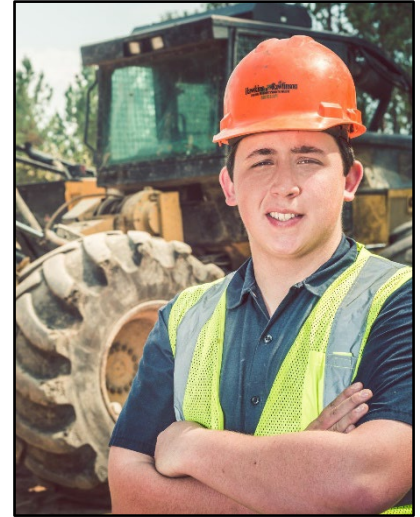


## **Future Logging Careers Act H. R. 2727**

***The Fair Labor Standards Act exempts minors of age from employment by their parents in any occupation on a farm owned and operated by their parents. Minors 16 and older may perform any job, whether hazardous or not. U.S. Department of Labor, Wage and Hour Division, reference guide.***

Workforce development is an issue impacting and delaying the post-pandemic economic recovery. The situation is similar within the timber industry. It is further compounded by the aging workforce, projected retirements (14% over the next 8 years), lack of interest or knowledge by young entry-level prospective employees, and competitiveness.

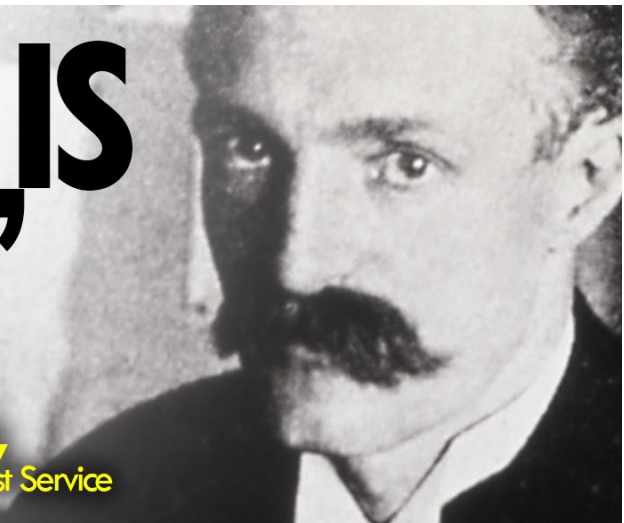


One of the traditional and historically typical workforce pipelines for rural jobs has been the generational family transitional experience. This is like the family farm situation. Based on this multigenerational workforce development path, family farms have been permitted to incorporate family members ages 16 and 17 in the family farming business's operation (mechanized equipment). The timber industry is similarly positioned and has promoted an identical allowance through the Future Logging Careers Act legislation. A copy of the legislation is attached and has had bipartisan support.

The logging industry is an agricultural industry, like farming. Generational succession is necessary to ensure that the skills are taught and conveyed from generation to generation.

**“WOOD IS  
A CROP”**

**-Gifford Pinchot,  
First Chief of US Forest Service**



# H. R. 2727

To amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to exempt certain 16- and 17-year-old individuals employed in timber harvesting entities or mechanized timber harvesting entities from child labor laws, and for other purposes.

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 21, 2021

Mr. GOLDEN (for himself, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. GALLAGHER, Ms. KUSTER, Mr. TIFFANY, Mr. PALMER, Mr. GROTHMAN, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. PALAZZO, and Mr. GUEST) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

## A BILL

To amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to exempt certain 16- and 17-year-old individuals employed in timber harvesting entities or mechanized timber harvesting entities from child labor laws, and for other purposes.

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 in Logging Ca-  
5 reers Act".

### 1 SEC. 2. CHILD LABOR LAW EXEMPTIONS FOR TIMBER HAR- 2 VESTING ENTITIES AND MECHANIZED TIM- 3 BER HARVESTING ENTITIES.

4 The Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C.  
5 201 et seq.) is amended—

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

8 "(z)(1) 'Timber harvesting employer' means an em-  
9 ployer engaged in—

10 "(A) the felling, skidding, yarding, loading  
11 and processing of timber by equipment other  
12 than manually operated chainsaws and cable  
13 skidders;

14 "(B) the felling of timber in mechanized  
15 operations;

16 "(C) the bucking or converting of timber  
17 into logs, poles, ties, bolts, pulpwood, chemical  
18 wood, excelsior wood, cordwood, fence posts, or  
19 similar products;

20 "(D) the collecting, skidding, yarding,  
21 loading, transporting and unloading of such  
22 products in connection with logging;

23 "(E) the constructing, repairing and main-  
24 taining of roads or camps used in connection  
25 with logging; the constructing, repairing, and

1 maintenance of machinery or equipment used in  
2 logging; and

3 "(F) other work performed in connection  
4 with logging.

5 "(2) 'Mechanized timber harvesting employer'—

6 "(A) means an employer engaged in the felling,  
7 skidding, yarding, loading and processing of timber  
8 by equipment other than manually operated chain-  
9 saws and cable skidders; and

10 "(B) includes an employer engaged in the use  
11 of whole tree processors, cut-to-length processors,  
12 stroke boom delimiters, wheeled and track feller-  
13 bunchers, pull thru delimiters, wheeled and track  
14 forwarders, chippers, grinders, mechanical debark-  
15 ers, wheeled and track grapple skidders, yarders,  
16 bulldozers, excavators, and log loaders."; and

17 (2) in section 13 (29 U.S.C. 213), by adding at  
18 the end the following:

19 "(k) The provisions of section 12 relating to child  
20 labor shall not apply to an employee between the ages six-  
21 teen and eighteen years who is employed—

22 "(1) in an occupation that the Secretary of  
23 Labor finds to be particularly hazardous for the em-  
24 ployment of children between the ages of sixteen and  
25 eighteen years;

1 "(2) by a person who is a parent, or standing  
2 in the place of a parent, of such employee; and

3 "(3) by a timber harvesting employer or a  
4 mechanized timber harvesting employer, owned or  
5 operated by such person.".