

2012 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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SENATE BILL NO. 126

Offered January 11, 2012

Prefiled January 10, 2012

A BILL to amend and reenact § 10.1-1114 of the Code of Virginia, relating to allowing the Department of Forestry to use of methyl bromide gas fumigation.

Patron—Watkins

Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 10.1-1114 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 10.1-1114. Establishment of nurseries; distribution of seeds and seedlings; phytosanitary certificate issued by Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

A. The State Forester may establish and maintain a nursery or nurseries, for the propagation of forest tree seedlings, either upon one or more of the forest reservations of the Commonwealth, or upon such other land as he may and which he is empowered to acquire for that purpose. Seedlings from this nursery may be furnished to the Commonwealth without expense for use upon its state forests or other public grounds or parks. Seeds and seedlings may also be distributed to landowners and citizens of the Commonwealth pursuant to Department regulations.

B. To ensure pest and disease-free plant material, and to the extent permitted by federal law and regulations, the preferred method of treatment shall be fumigation using methyl bromide in seedling plant beds prior to seeding.

C. The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services may issue a phytosanitary certificate or a permit for intrastate and interstate shipments of conifer and hardwood seedlings to verify that they are free of pests and diseases.

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