

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to tree and timber trimming, removal,  
 3           and harvesting; creating s. 589.37, F.S.; preempting  
 4           to the state the regulation of the trimming, removal,  
 5           or harvesting of trees and timber on private property;  
 6           prohibiting certain local governmental actions  
 7           relating to the trimming or removal of trees or  
 8           timber; prohibiting local governments from prohibiting  
 9           the burial of vegetative debris on certain properties;  
 10          providing an effective date.

11  
 12 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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 14           Section 1. Section 589.37, Florida Statutes, is created to  
 15 read:

16           589.37 Regulation of tree and timber trimming, removal, or  
 17 harvesting preempted.

18           (1) The regulation of the trimming, removal, or harvesting  
 19 of trees and timber on private property is preempted to the  
 20 state.

21           (2) A municipality, county, or other political subdivision  
 22 of the state may not:

23           (a) Prohibit or restrict a private landowner from  
 24 trimming, removing, or harvesting trees or timber located on the  
 25 landowner's private property.

HB 521

2018

26        (b) Require mitigation, including, but not limited to, the  
27 planting of trees or the payment of a fee, for the removal or  
28 harvesting of trees or timber from private property.

29        (c) Prohibit the burial of trees, shrubs, palmettos, or  
30 other vegetative debris on properties larger than 2.5 acres.

31        Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2018.