



October 15, 2025

The Honorable Jon Ossoff
U.S. Senator
Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Raphael Warnock
U.S. Senator
Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Earl L. "Buddy"
Carter
U.S. House of Representatives
Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Sanford Bishop
U.S. House of Representatives
Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Brian Jack
U.S. House of Representatives
Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Hank Johnson
U.S. House of Representatives
Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Nikema Williams
U.S. House of Representatives
Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Lucy McBath
U.S. House of Representatives
Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Richard
McCormick
U.S. House of Representatives
Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Austin Scott
U.S. House of Representatives
Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Andrew Clyde
U.S. House of Representatives
Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mike Collins
U.S. House of Representatives
Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Barry Loudermilk
U.S. House of Representatives
Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Rick Allen
U.S. House of Representatives
Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable David Scott
U.S. House of Representatives
Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Marjorie Greene
U.S. House of Representatives
Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Members of Georgia's Congressional Delegation,

For generations, forestry has been the backbone of economies, communities, and families across the Southeast, supporting countless jobs and generating billions in economic impact each year. In recent months, significant shifts in the market, regulatory barriers, and uncertainty in trade policy have contributed to mill closures throughout the region and unprecedented challenges for our forestry industry.

As Speakers of the House from Southeastern states that together represent a large share of our nation's forestry production, we respectfully request your support to advance the following priorities that will provide immediate and urgent relief to an industry in crisis:

First, we encourage you to advocate for European Union approval to use Sulfuryl Fluoride (SF) to fumigate Southern Yellow Pine wood chips in break bulk ships for export to the European Union market. The European Union does not currently permit the use of SF, the only commercially viable fumigant, on board vessels. This regulation represents one of the most significant barriers to trade impacting U.S. pine wood exports.

Secondly, under current U.S. trade policy, products and shipments from U.S. exporters are becoming stuck en route to their final destination due to immediately imposed tariffs. Establishing a 90-day notice period for any tariffs going into effect that would have an impact on the flow of forest products into or out of the U.S. would drastically improve market stability and predictability.

Next, the Asian market's ban on log imports from the U.S. has closed off a significant market opportunity for the Southeast's forest sector. Pushing for the current administration to work towards reopening the Asian market for U.S. logs and chips through ongoing trade negotiations is crucial for increasing demand in the short term for U.S. forest products.

Finally, the Transshipment Clause gives U.S. Customs and Border Protection the power to investigate the import origins of a product and apply a higher tariff if paperwork claiming materials are of a certain origin doesn't hold up. Clarifying language is needed to assure our trading partners of the certainty of this tariff exemption if the origin of raw materials is from the U.S.

We look forward to our continued collaboration as we work to secure the future of one of our nation's most vital industries.

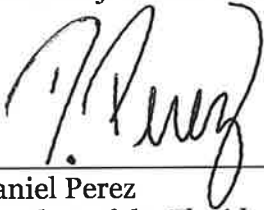
Sincerely,



Nathaniel Ledbetter
Speaker of the Alabama House of Representatives



Brian S. Evans
Speaker of the Arkansas House of Representatives



Daniel Perez
Speaker of the Florida House of Representatives



Jon G. Burns
Speaker of the Georgia House of Representatives



G. Murrell Smith, Jr.
Speaker of the South Carolina House of Representatives