

Groups to send email:

**House Committee on Agriculture Members
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515
ATTN: Legislative Assistants & Committee Staff**

**House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology Members
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515
ATTN: Legislative Assistants & Committee Staff**

**House Agriculture Legislative Assistants
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515**

RE: We Urge Your Support for the House Timber Innovation Act (H.R. 5628)- Please Co-Sponsor If You Have Not Already Done So!

September 12, 2016

On behalf of the undersigned organizations, we are writing to urge you to support the House Timber Innovation Act (H.R. 5628). This bill is companion legislation to the Senate bill, S. 2892, which has already garnered the support of over 100 organizations including builders, architects, forest land owners, wood products manufacturers, environmental groups, state forestry associations, universities and labor unions.

Competing material industries have recently come out in opposition to the Timber Innovation Act, claiming that the respective bills pick “winners and losers” for construction materials at the taxpayers’ expense. This could not be further from the truth; the Timber Innovation Act promotes performance-driven research and development programs for tall wood building construction in the United States, and does not discriminate against other construction materials. Additionally, it is inappropriate for opposing material industries, such as concrete and steel, to claim that the federal government is exclusively “advancing” use of wood in tall buildings, as they have received federal research and development funding themselves. Please refer to the attached fact sheet that outlines grants the concrete industry has received from the federal government.

Furthermore, we have attached a summary of the Timber Innovation Act (H.R. 5628), a list of supporting organizations, and a myth/fact sheet on arguments you may hear from opposing materials industries. You can also visit www.timberinnovation.org to learn more about the bill and to access research and other educational resources.

In advance, we thank you for your consideration of our request to support this important legislation. If your office is interested in signing on as a co-sponsor to H.R. 5628, please contact Ben Barasky at ben.barasky@mail.house.gov, (202) 225-6311, with Congresswoman Suzan DelBene (D-WA) or Erin Wilson at erin.wilson@mail.house.gov, (202) 225-5121, with Congressman Glenn Thompson (R-PA).

Kindly,

Alabama Forestry Association
American Forest Foundation
American Forest & Paper Association
American Wood Council
atelierjones LLC (WA) (Architecture Firm)
Binational Softwood Lumber Council
Biomass Power Association
Black Hills Forest Resource Association
Brodie Land Company, LLC
California Forestry Association
Colorado Timber Industry Association
Charles Ingram Lumber Co., Inc.
Essex Farms LLC
Federal Forest Resource Coalition
Forterra
Hardwood Federation
Ingram Mountain Family Limited Partnership
Intermountain Forest Association
Kentucky Forest Industries Association
Louisiana Forestry Association
Minnesota Forestry Association
Mississippi Forestry Association
National Association of State Foresters
National Lumber and Building Material Dealers Association
New England Forestry Foundation
North Carolina Forestry Association
Oregon Forest & Industries Council
Shuqualak Lumber Co.
South Carolina Forestry Association
Virginia Forestry Association
Weyerhaeuser