

**FOREST PRODUCTS INDUSTRY
NATIONAL LABOR
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

September 17, 2013

International Unions:

International
Association of
Machinists and
Aerospace Workers

United Brotherhood of
Carpenters and Joiners
of America

United Brotherhood of
Carpenters Labor
Management Education
and Development Fund

United Mine Workers of
America

Regional Affiliates:

Association of Western
Pulp and Paper Workers

Carpenters Industrial
Council

Woodworkers District
Lodge 1, IAM

National Associations:

American Forest &
Paper Association

American Forest
Resource Council

American Loggers
Council

National Association of
Forest Owners

Weyerhaeuser

Regional Associations:

California Forestry
Association

Intermountain Forest
Association

Sierra Pacific Industries

The Honorable John A Boehner
Speaker
US House of Representatives
Washington, DC

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Minority Leader
US House of Representatives
Washington, DC

Dear Mr. Speaker and Minority Leader:

The Forest Products Industry National Labor Management Committee strongly supports HR 1526, the Restoring Healthy Forests for Healthy Communities Act, as amended by the House Natural Resources Committee.

The Forest Products Industry National Labor Management Committee is a non-profit trust formed in 1990 to pursue the common public policy interests of both the management and the working men and women in the forest products industry. Collectively, the Committee represents more than two million workers across the nation, including lumber and sawmill workers, woodworkers, machinists, carpenters, and pulp and paper workers. Our coalition is made up of labor unions and management dedicated to finding solutions to the long-term challenges facing our industry that balance environmental concerns with economic considerations.

Hr 1526, the Restoring Healthy Forests for Healthy Communities Act, provides this sort of balance. The bill restores a long-term commitment made by Theodore Roosevelt and Gifford Pinchot to the economic wellbeing of rural communities surrounded by federal forest land. The bill also reaffirms the need to actively manage our federal forests to reduce the costly outbreak of wildfires such as those that we have experienced throughout the country this fire season. The provisions to streamline regulatory compliance requirements are essential in this regard.

The Committee appreciates your work in bringing this important measure to the full House of Representatives. We urge a strong vote in favor of HR 1526.

Sincerely,



Mike Draper, Chairman
Forrest Products Industry National Labor Management Committee