#### **Forest Resources Association**

Forest Resources

1901 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 1007 Washington, DC 20006

Phone: (202) 296-3937

### Statement on Representatives Gluesenkamp Perez, Thompson and Rouzer Introduction of the "Jobs in the Woods Act" --119th Congress

Contact: Tim O'Hara, President, FRA tohara@forestresources.org 218-390-7965

**July 15, 2025** -- The Forest Resources Association (FRA), along with the undersigned organizations, applaud Congresswoman Gluesenkamp Perez (D-WA-3), Congressman G.T. Thompson (R-PA-15), and Congressman David Rouzer's (R-NC-07) introduction of the "Jobs in the Woods Act" in the 119<sup>th</sup> Congress. This legislation provides educational pathways for those interested in a career in forestry.

"The Jobs in the Woods Act provides targeted solutions to rural workforce shortages and strengthens the forest economy. By investing in training forestry-related careers—both in high school programs and adult workforce pathways—the legislation ensures a skilled labor pipeline for the full wood supply chain. It's a forward-looking approach to revitalizing forest-based communities and securing America's sustainable resource infrastructure." stated Tim O'Hara, President, FRA.

Forest product industry manufacturing facilities are in areas where they are the primary economic base for rural forest-based economies. They serve as a key employer and provide good-paying direct and indirect jobs. The forest products industry, including loggers and haulers, primary and secondary manufacturers, pulp and paper mills, sawmills, and engineered wood products, is one of the largest manufacturing sectors in the U.S., sustaining nearly 930,000 families and contributing \$353 billion annually to the U.S. economy<sup>i</sup>.

### **Supporting Organizations of the Jobs in the Woods Act:**

Forest Resources Association

Alabama Forestry Association

Allegheny Hardwood Utilization Group

American Forest & Paper Association

American Forest Foundation

American Forest Resource Council

American Loggers Council

American Wood Council

Appalachian Hardwood Manufacturers, Inc.

Arkansas Forestry Association

Arkansas Timber Producers Association

Associated Logging Contractors of Idaho

Associated Oregon Loggers Inc

Association of Consulting Foresters

Black Hills Forest Resource Association

California Forestry Association

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Colorado Timber Industry Association

Composite Panel Association

Decorative Hardwoods Association

**Empire State Forest Products Association** 

Federal Forest Resource Coalition

Florida Forestry Association

Forest Landowners Association

Forestry Association of South Carolina

Forest Workforce Training Institute

Georgia Forestry Association

Great Lakes Timber Producers Association

Hardwood Federation

Intermountain Forest Association

Kentucky Forest Industries Association

**Keystone Wood Products Association** 

Louisiana Forestry Association

Louisiana Logging Council

Maine Forest Products Council

Maple Flooring Manufacturers Association

Maryland Forests Association

Massachusetts Forest Alliance

Minnesota Forest Industries

Minnesota Timber Producers Association

Mississippi Forestry Association

Missouri Forest Products Association

Montana Wood Products Association

National Association of State Foresters

National Alliance of Forest Owners

National Hardwood Lumber Association

National Wooden Pallet & Container Association

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National Wood Flooring Association

National Woodland Owners Association

New Hampshire Timberland Owners Association

North Carolina Forestry Association

Northeastern Loggers Association

Northern Tier Hardwood Association

Oregon Women in Timber

Ohio Forestry Association

Pennsylvania Forestry Association

South Carolina Timber Producers Association

Southern Loggers Cooperative

Tennessee Forestry Association

Texas Forestry Association

Treated Wood Council

Southeastern Lumber Manufacturers Association

Sustainable Forestry Initiative

Virginia Forestry Association

Washington Forest Protection Association

Western Wood Preservers Institute

West Virginia Forestry Association

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Economic Impact | AF&PA (afandpa.org)