



# NO TIMBER FROM TYRANTS ACT

*Legislation being introduced by Ranking Member Bruce Westerman (R-AR) to prohibit imports of forest products from Russia and Belarus while ramping up responsible harvesting of American timber to create new jobs, produce more sustainable wood products, and make our federal lands more resilient to catastrophic wildfires.*

## **The No Timber From Tyrants Act would:**

- Ban imports of Russian and Belarusian wood products while Russia continues its violent and senseless war against Ukraine.
- Improve the health of our nation's forests and create new jobs by directing the U.S. Forest Service and Department of the Interior to harvest more timber from our overgrown, fire-prone federal lands to make up for the lost imports.

Last year, the United States imported over half-a-billion dollars' worth of wood products from Russia (\$459 million) and Belarus (\$52 million). Russia is the world's 4<sup>th</sup> largest exporter of wood and wood exports are a \$12 billion industry for Vladimir Putin. Since Russia's unprovoked invasion of Ukraine, global forest certification systems have begun classifying wood products from Russia and Belarus as 'conflict lumber.' As we look for ways to cut-off resources funding Vladimir Putin's deplorable acts of aggression, wood products are an obvious way to further economically isolate Russia while simultaneously supporting American businesses.

To replace this conflict timber, the "No Timber From Tyrants Act" will increase responsible harvesting on federal lands in the amount necessary to make up for lost imports. Securing American independence from wood supplied by tyrants will greatly enhance American forest management and create vitally important economic opportunities for rural communities to produce more American wood products. Harvesting more wood products here at home, under high environmental standards, will also help address the wildfire crisis by supporting more active management to improve forest health and reduce the risk and severity of catastrophic wildfires. reduce the risk and severity of catastrophic wildfires.

## **Supporting Organizations:**

Federal Forest Resource Coalition, National Association of Home Builders, American Forest & Paper Association, American Forest Resource Council, American Loggers Council, Binational Softwood Lumber Council, ConservAmerica, Forest Resources Association, Healthy Forests Healthy Communities, and Heritage Action.

## **Contact**

Aniela Butler ([aniela@mail.house.gov](mailto:aniela@mail.house.gov)) | Brandon Miller ([Brandon.Miller@mail.house.gov](mailto:Brandon.Miller@mail.house.gov))