



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE FORESTERS

444 North Capitol Street NW | Suite 387 | Washington, DC 20001 | www.stateforesters.org

April 1, 2026

The Honorable John Boozman
Chairman, Senate Committee on
Agriculture, Nutrition, & Forestry
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Glenn Thompson
Chairman, House Committee on Agriculture
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Amy Klobuchar
Ranking Member, Senate Committee on
Agriculture, Nutrition, & Forestry
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Angie Craig
Ranking Member, House Committee on
Agriculture
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

RE: Support for S. 3851 and H.R. 7518 - *A bill to amend the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 to ensure adequate staffing and resources for the Institute of Tropical Forestry and the Institute of Pacific Islands Forestry*

Dear Chair Boozman, Ranking Member Klobuchar, Chair Thompson, and Ranking Member Craig:

The National Association of State Foresters (NASF) is writing today in support of S. 3851 and H.R. 7518 - *A bill to amend the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 to ensure adequate staffing and resources for the Institute of Tropical Forestry and the Institute of Pacific Islands Forestry*. We respectfully request its favorable consideration by the Committees.

Since its inception in 1920, the NASF has served as a leading authority on forest management in the United States. State Foresters are the primary delivery system for forest and wildfire management activities nationwide. They conserve, enhance, and protect state and private forests, which encompass nearly two-thirds of the nation's forests.

The Forest Service's Institute of Pacific Islands Forestry (IPIF) and International Institute of Tropical Forestry (IITF) serve as the sole Forest Service engagement point for five U.S. Territories, three nations in compacts of free association and the state of Hawaii – IPIF serving the Pacific and IITF serving Puerto Rico and US Virgin Islands. The Institutes are important not only to the Islands but also to the mainland U.S. They produce outcomes such as cost-effective

biosecurity, increased productivity of agroforests, and healthy mangrove forests to provide vital habitat for fisheries. The Institutes also play an important role in addressing wildfire concerns across the Islands, which are home to strategic Department of War lands. We believe Congress should take action to ensure both Institutes remain in place to produce these critical outcomes.

We thank the Committees for their thoughtful consideration and look forward to the legislation's final passage.

Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jason Hartman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Jason Hartman
President, National Association of State Foresters
Kansas State Forester

CC: The Honorable Mazie Hirono
The Honorable Jill Tokuda