

June 24, 2025

The Honorable John Thune Majority Leader U.S. Senate

Chairman Senate Finance Committee

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Democratic Leader
U.S. Senate

The Honorable Ron Wyden Ranking Member Senate Finance Committee

The Honorable Mike Crapo

Dear Majority Leader Thune, Leader Schumer, Chairman Crapo, and Ranking Member Wyden,

The American Forest & Paper Association (AF&PA) supports the U.S. Senate's reconciliation legislation that would significantly help the pulp, paper, packaging and tissue manufacturing sector continue to grow and thrive here in the United States. We urge you to work quickly to get these key tax provisions signed into law as part of President Trump's "One Big Beautiful Bill Act."

AF&PA serves to advance public policies that foster economic growth, job creation and global competitiveness for a vital sector that makes the essential paper and packaging products Americans use every day. Our industry employs over 925,000 people and accounts for approximately 4.7% of the total U.S. manufacturing GDP, manufacturing more than \$435 billion in products annually. AF&PA member companies are significant producers and users of renewable biomass energy and are committed to making sustainable products for a sustainable future through our industry's decades-long initiative – Better Practices, Better Planet 2030. Over 75 percent of our facilities are located in counties that are over 80 percent rural.

Our businesses are made up of both C-corporations and pass-through entities, which invest heavily in equipment and facility upgrades, making our industry one of the most capital-intensive among all U.S. manufacturing. The pulp, paper, packaging and tissue products industry invests roughly \$16 billion per year in plant and equipment items such as recovery boilers, turbine generators, paper machines, and environmental controls that are critical to maintaining technologically advanced manufacturing facilities that compete in an extremely competitive global marketplace. Exports of US paper and wood products account for approximately 10 percent of the industry's annual total sales.

As one of the most highly capital-intensive manufacturing industries, we strongly support the provisions in the Finance Committee's draft that would permanently extend the Section 168(k) 'full expensing' for new investments in new and used property, the Section 174

research and development deduction, and the Section 163(j) interest deduction limitation. While the House-passed bill extends these key tax items for 5 years, through December 31, 2030. We would strongly urge the U.S. Senate to ensure these provisions are extended permanently, as drafted in the Senate Finance Committee's released legislation, providing long-term certainty to our member companies.

Additionally, as a globally competitive industry, we support making key international provisions, like the GILTI provision (formerly known as Global Intangible Low Tax Income provision), the base erosion and anti-abuse tax (BEAT), and the FDII provisions (formerly known as Foreign-derived Intangible Income) permanent, as the House-passed H.R. 1 accomplishes. We urge the Senate to act to ensure these provisions are made permanent.

Once again, we greatly appreciate the efforts of you and your teams to preserve business certainty, especially with R&D, full expensing, the interest deduction limitation and the international provisions. We need long-term certainty for these provisions and request that you make all of these permanent in the Senate bill and to get the "One Big Beautiful Bill Act" to President Trump's desk for signature as quickly as possible.

We appreciate your consideration and look forward to working with you and President Trump to get these key provisions signed into law.

Sincerely,

Julie Landry

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Vice President, Government Affairs American Forest & Paper Association