

December 5, 2017

Dear Natural Resource Committee of Michigan:

I am writing in support of House Bills 5001 and 5002. I have been a practicing forester for over twelve years in Michigan, for the private industry side of the business. I truly believe the State of Michigan's citizens and government deserve to have public and private forested ecosystems managed by educated, trained and ethical forest stewards for the now and the future in Michigan.

I am convinced, just like Governor Snyder that improving not eliminating the Michigan's Licensed Forester statute will accomplish more for sustainable long-term forest management and our state's economic growth from public and private forest ecosystems. Especially in response to invasive animal, plant and insect species control and eradication; sustain or increase property and land value for Michigan citizens and accomplish the goals from the 2013 Forest Product Summit to increase economic return from the forest products sector.

I joined the voluntary group of foresters across this state to form the Registered Forester (RF) working group to update and reform the RF program in Michigan. We have renewed the RF program to continue the code of ethics, from the past to match current and future needs from our state's forest resources and ensure continued improvement to the profession for all of Michigan.

I encourage you to vote for House Bills 5001 and 5002.

Sincerely,



Rebecca Ensign
Packaging Corporation of America
Woodlands Environmental Manager