

Hardwood Federation Call to Action

Dear HF Supporters,

The Hardwood industry is mobilizing and has done an amazing job sending the message to USDA Secretary Sonny Perdue that U.S. Hardwoods must be included in the soon-to-be-announced agriculture commodity aid package. As of Thursday morning over 330 Members of the Hardwood community contacted 174 total Congressional offices to the tune of almost 1,000 messages. This is an awesome output! And we know many of these offices have followed up with the Secretary and his office. That said, the fight is far from over and there is work to be done.

The U.S. Senate and Congress will be on Recess next week (May 25th – June 2nd) and back in their home states and districts. **Now is YOUR TIME TO TAKE ACTION AT HOME!** Speak to them directly about how the ongoing trade war and China's retaliatory tariffs on industry products are impacting you and your companies. There will be opportunities to see your elected officials while they are in their home states.

Below is a quick guide to making contact with your federally elected officials:

1. Contact state offices to schedule an appointment or to inquire about public meetings and events that you may attend.

- To find contact information for the home state offices of U.S. Senators, click [here](#).
- To find contact information for the home state offices of U.S. Representatives, click [here](#).

2. Prepare and organize your thoughts to efficiently communicate your message. Recommended talking points are below:

- The U.S. Hardwood Lumber industry is being devastated by the ongoing trade dispute with China. Domestic mills have suffered sharp sales declines of export sales, lost jobs and shuttered operations.
- The impacts the industry is suffering are outside the control of our significant agriculture market and is devastating to the communities reliant on good paying hardwood jobs.

- U.S. hardwoods is an \$348 Billion industry and employs nearly 2 million people. We ship almost \$4 billion in products around the world, half to China. (For state specific economic impact numbers, visit [Hardwood Industry Economic Impact](#).)
- Share details of how the retaliatory tariffs are impacting **YOUR** business. Tell your story and those of your employees in as much detail as possible using economic and jobs numbers.
- If these tariffs continue to be imposed much longer logging and sawmill production will disappear as an industry sector, and the secondary jobs and manufacturing companies depending on loggers and sawmill operations will quickly follow.

3. Share this letter, [click here](#) to download, from the Hardwood Federation Board of Directors with your Senator or Congressman (and/or their staff) and ask them to encourage U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Secretary Sonny Perdue to include hardwood businesses in any relief efforts targeted at agricultural products hit hard by the trade war.

Other Ways to Have Your Voice Heard:

- The Hardwood Federation is working on organizing a Hardwood Trade Day in Washington, DC in early June. Further details will be available soon. Please contact Dana or Cary if you would like to participate.
- Continue to write to your Senator and Member of Congress directly using the Hardwood Federation Grassroots outreach tool. Click [here](#) to reach out.

Please let Dana Lee Cole, 202.463.2705, know if you need additional information or have further questions.