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**Testimony Of St. Croix Chipping, LLC, St. Croix Tissue Inc. and Woodland Pulp LLC of Baileyville to the Joint Standing Appropriations And Financial Affairs and Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry Committees in Support of LD-209- Part U of the Supplemental Budget**

January 21, 2025

Senators Rotundo and Talbot Ross, Representatives Gattine and Pluecker and members of the committees:

I submit this brief testimony on behalf of the above listed companies in support of the Part U component of the supplemental budget to appropriate the needed \$2,000,000 in state funding. We understand this state funding, along with private funds, is required to leverage the \$14,000,000 previously secured by U.S. Senator Collins.

From what our UMAINE Spruce Budworm lab staff have determined, our state is on the cusp of a significant outbreak that will impact at least 200,000 to 250,000 acres of forestland. Therefore, early intervention is required this spring to mitigate further infestations and the significant threat to the fiber supply our operations rely on.

On behalf of the approximately 425 women and men that comprise our company's workforce, thank you for considering this request for your support.

Sincerely,  
Scott Beal  
Capella Consulting LLC