

Timber Resource Group

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January 21, 2025

Appropriations and Finance Affairs and Agriculture Conservation and Forestry Committees

Re: LD 209 Part U

I am Allan Ryder, President of Timber Resource Group (TRG) from Stratton, Maine. I am Licensed Maine Forester and Wood Scaler and have been in Forest Products Industry in Maine and New England since 1982.

TRG is the Log Procurement company responsible for purchasing spruce & fir logs for:

- **Stratton Lumber Company** in Stratton, ME which produces 75 million board feet of spruce/fir lumber each year
- **Moose River Lumber Company** in Moose River, ME which produces 60 million board feet of spruce/fir lumber each year

To put that in perspective, there are about 350 trailer loads of lumber going out of the sawmills each week.

The two sawmills employ approximately 160 people in rural Maine.

We purchase spruce & fir from over 600 landowners (including the Maine Bureau of Parks & Lands), land managers, loggers, and truckers each year, with the majority of the purchases being made in the State of Maine.

I was in the forest products industry when the previous spruce budworm outbreak came in the late 1970's and 80's and saw first-hand what the destruction did to the spruce-fir forest in the State of Maine. It was devastating.

Early intervention is key to limiting the damage done to our forest in Maine and to help protect our spruce-fir resource, which will in turn help keep the forest industry healthy along with our sawmills, loggers, truckers, and landowners.

I urge you to support Part U of the Supplemental Budget.

Thank you very much,

Allan Ryder
President
Timber Resource Group