

SAMPLE LTR

Date

The Kentucky Congressional Delegation
c/o Agricultural Committee Staff

Dear US Congressmen and dedicated staff,

As a _____ fill in all that apply: *a private woodland owner, a member of KWOA / a woodland owner/ a concerned citizen/ an employee in the KY forest industry* ___ I am writing to urge Kentucky's distinguished US Congressional Senators and Representatives to support mandatory funding /cosponsor The Forest Conservation Easement Program (FCEP) with their colleagues.

FCEP is currently introduced in the Senate as S2631 (referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry and its Subcommittee on Conservation, Climate, Forestry, and Natural Resources) and in the House as H.R.3424. **There has been strong bipartisan support.**

The Kentucky Woodland Owners Association, KWOA, has joined a broad coalition of organizations, (from focus on working forest, to sports, conservation, and forest industry) across the country working to include FCEP legislation in the 2023 Farm Bill's conservation title.

This legislation is designed to **provide landowners with viable options for keeping their woodlands privately owned and functioning as working forests** through conservation easement options. Kentucky's forests provide significant economic, environmental, and societal benefits that are increasingly at risk.

Your support of this legislation is needed at this critical time for protecting our working forests in Kentucky and beyond.

Respectfully submitted,