



## *Minnesota Timber Producers Association*

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Co-Chair Mary Franson  
Co-Chair Fue Lee  
House Capital Investment Committee  
5<sup>th</sup> Floor Centennial Office Building  
658 Cedar Street  
St. Paul, MN 55155

March 26, 2026

**Subject: Support for HF 4383 – Forests and forestry capital projects funding provided**

Dear Co-Chair Franson, Co-Chair Lee, and Committee Members,

The Minnesota Timber Producers Association (MTPA) is a trade organization representing all segments of Minnesota's forest products industry, including loggers, truckers, sawmills, paper mills, suppliers, and other allied businesses. We support healthy forests and sustainable forest management. Thank you for the opportunity to comment in support of HF 4383.

Funding for reforestation provided to the DNR in recent years has been insufficient. By statute, DNR is required to reforest all harvested acres. Without these bonding funds, DNR will have to pay for this reforestation work with existing funds in the Forest Management Investment Account (FMIA). This could result in a reduction of DNR offering fewer acres of timber for sale, and a reduced harvest, forest management work that is critical to keep Minnesota's forest healthy and reducing the risk of wildfire.

Reforestation is a good investment in our state's rural communities, due to the social, ecological, and economic benefits that come from our forests. Providing these bonding funds will support jobs in our forest products industry, but also all the forest-based recreational activities we love in our state. Supporting HF 4383 will promote forest health and benefit all Minnesotans.

I thank you for your consideration of HF 4383, and urge your support.

Sincerely,

Ray Higgins  
Executive Vice President  
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