



# WISCONSIN COUNCIL ON FORESTRY

Tony Evers, Governor

councilonforestry.wi.gov

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**Tom Hittle**  
Chairman  
Tomahawk

October 22, 2019

**Matt Dallman**  
Vice-Chair  
Tomahawk

Senator Tammy Baldwin  
30 West Mifflin Street, Suite 700  
Madison, WI 53703

**Sen. Janet Bewley**  
Ashland

**Re: Safe Routes Act of 2019 (H.R. 2453/S. 1509)**

**Troy Brown**  
Antigo

Dear Senator Baldwin:

**James Hoppe**  
Tomahawk

The Wisconsin Council on Forestry is in support of the Safe Routes Act. This legislation gives truckers hauling raw forest material a choice of routes including access to the interstate system for short distances. Legislation such as the Safe Routes Act, is needed to allow state legal log trucks the option to avoid rural and urban streets and highways and populated areas where pedestrian activities are numerous and where frequent intersections increase traffic safety concerns.

**James Kerkman**  
Bangor

**Rep. Jeffrey Mursau**  
Crivitz

The Safe Routes Act is a commonsense example of modest legislative action that would simply allow truck operators the option of taking the safest most direct route from the harvesting site to the forest product facility.

**Ken Price**  
Stevens Point

Several safety-oriented exemptions diverting state legal trucks to the interstate have already been enacted with great success including specific route designations in Wisconsin, Minnesota, Maine, Texas, and Louisiana. These state level exemptions have been supported by State Departments of Transportation.

**Henry Schienebeck**  
Butternut

The Wisconsin Council on Forestry, charged by Wisconsin statute with advising our state Department of Natural Resources, legislators, and Governor on forestry matters is asking for your support of legislation that addresses this important issue.

**Jane Severt**  
Rhineland

**Jason Sjostrom**  
Hayward

Sincerely,

Thomas Hittle, Chair  
Wisconsin Council on Forestry

**Jordan Skiff**  
Fond du Lac

**Fred Souba**  
Wisconsin Rapids

**Paul Strong**  
Rhineland

**Sen. Tom Tiffany**  
Madison

Cc:  
Senator Ron Johnson  
Representative Bryan Steil  
Representative Mark Pocan  
Representative Ron Kind  
Representative Gwen Moore  
Representative James Sensenbrenner, Jr.  
Representative Mike Gallagher  
WDNR Secretary Preston Cole

**Richard Wedepohl**  
Madison

**Ken Zabel**  
Janesville