

WHY WE NEED A NEW U.S.-CANADA SOFTWOOD LUMBER AGREEMENT

THE PROBLEM

Canada heavily subsidizes its lumber industry, resulting in artificially high production levels. Canadian companies unload their excess production into the U.S. market at a cost of thousands of good-paying American jobs.

When the 2006-2015 U.S.-Canada Lumber Agreement expired, Canada expanded sales of subsidized, below market-value softwood lumber to the United States. The U.S. lumber industry saw its market share dwindle and lost sales and revenues resulting in mill closures and job losses.

The U.S. industry produced enough lumber in 2005 to supply 85% of today's demand. It could do so again were it not for the harmful impact of unfairly traded Canadian imports.

WHAT'S AT STAKE?



Over 350,000 direct and indirect jobs that the U.S. sawmill and wood preservation industry generates across America, including highly-skilled positions often utilizing robotics and 3D imaging, and high paying jobs that don't require college degrees.



625 manufacturing facilities operating in the sawmill, millwork and treating sectors.



Approximately 11 million U.S. private landowners, managing approximately 640 million acres of family-owned timberlands, who depend on a strong domestic lumber industry

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Canada's lumber subsidies are threatening America's Main Street economy. This is an issue of companies, fairness in trade, and economic stability for thousands of communities and hundreds of thousands of hardworking families across the U.S.

If given a level-playing field, the U.S. lumber industry has vast untapped potential in the form of good manufacturing jobs for Americans, investment returns, and economic growth for our country.

In many rural communities, lumber manufacturing companies are the core employers —we have an opportunity to not only retain these jobs, but create more by simply correcting the unfair market created by Canadian subsidies of softwood lumber production.

U.S. homebuilders and others will still have the opportunity to buy Canadian lumber at fair prices, and we can do that without hemorrhaging more U.S. jobs.

THE SOLUTION

The solution to the harmful effects of Canadian subsidies is 1) the enforcement of the current U.S. trade laws – which are in conformity with our World Trade Organization and general international obligations, or 2) a new trade agreement that includes a clean quota without exemptions or special rules, so the U.S. industry can grow to its full potential.

For more information visit: www.uslumbercoalition.org