

# Why We Need the Full Enforcement of the U.S. Trade Laws

## 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.



**350,000**  
direct & indirect jobs



**550**  
number of manufacturing facilities



**10 million**  
U.S. private landholders

## 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.
- 550 manufacturing facilities operating in the sawmill, millwork and treating sectors.
- Approximately 10 million U.S. private landowners, managing approximately 420 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**—fair trade allows us retain these jobs and create more. Since 2016, U.S. producers have increased their shipments by 2 billion board feet of lumber, more than offsetting the decrease in subsidized Canadian imports.

**An even playing field results in more American homes being built with American lumber manufactured by American workers. This is a win for the United States.**

## The Solution

**The solution to the harmful effects of Canadian subsidies is**

- **The enforcement of the current U.S. trade laws**—which are in conformity with our World Trade Organization and general international obligations, or
- **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 on the U.S. softwood lumber trade dispute visit:

[www.uslumbercoalition.org](http://www.uslumbercoalition.org)