

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

April 27, 2026

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Johnson,

We appreciate your leadership and support for struggling rural economies and communities. We are committed to advocating for win-win solutions that promote the needs of rural areas. We look forward to continuing our work together to support and expand these essential opportunities.

To that end, we write to express our strong support for including a permanent fix to the definition of woody biomass as part of the effort to find a solution on year-round E15 under the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS). As representatives of forested districts suffering from the effects of wildfires, mill closures, and related economic and community hardships, amending the RFS to address the needs of the E15 community also presents an important opportunity to support the needs of the forest community.

Since its enactment in 2007, the RFS definition of woody biomass has been so restrictive that it has effectively eliminated the opportunity for affordable wood to qualify as a feedstock for advanced biofuel production from mill residuals and federal and private land. Consequently, no woody biomass transportation fuel has been produced under this existing RFS definition of woody biomass.

Revising the definition to allow woody biomass to qualify as an RFS feedstock would create a new market opportunity for lower-value wood that currently has no viable outlet. Importantly, because fuels produced from wood fall into a different RIN category than fuels derived from annual crops, this change would not conflict with the objectives of the E15 community.

We hope to support a win-win solution that will find its way to the President's desk. Including woody biomass in the E15 solution will help make that happen.

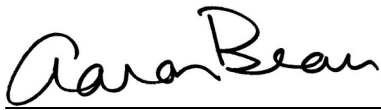
Respectfully,



Russ Fulcher
Member of Congress



Kat Cammack
Member of Congress



Aaron Bean
Member of Congress



Rick W. Allen
Member of Congress



Cliff Bentz
Member of Congress



Mike Ezell
Member of Congress



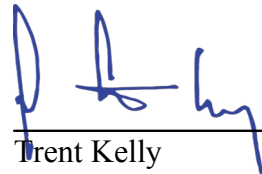
Austin Scott
Member of Congress



Brian Babin, D.D.S.
Member of Congress



Gary J. Palmer
Member of Congress



Trent Kelly
Member of Congress