

S 538

Timber Innovation Act of 2017

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Public Lands and Natural Resources

Introduced: Mar 7, 2017

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry. (Mar 7, 2017)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/538>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Stabenow, Debbie [D-MI]

Party: Democratic • **State:** MI • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (19 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Cantwell, Maria [D-WA]	D · WA		Mar 7, 2017
Sen. Collins, Susan M. [R-ME]	R · ME		Mar 7, 2017
Sen. Crapo, Mike [R-ID]	R · ID		Mar 7, 2017
Sen. Daines, Steve [R-MT]	R · MT		Mar 7, 2017
Sen. King, Angus S., Jr. [I-ME]	I · ME		Mar 7, 2017
Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]	D · MN		Mar 7, 2017
Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]	D · OR		Mar 7, 2017
Sen. Peters, Gary C. [D-MI]	D · MI		Mar 7, 2017
Sen. Risch, James E. [R-ID]	R · ID		Mar 7, 2017
Sen. Tester, Jon [D-MT]	D · MT		Mar 7, 2017
Sen. Wicker, Roger F. [R-MS]	R · MS		Mar 7, 2017
Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]	D · OR		Mar 7, 2017
Sen. Cochran, Thad [R-MS]	R · MS		Mar 8, 2017
Sen. Shelby, Richard C. [R-AL]	R · AL		Apr 24, 2017
Sen. Murray, Patty [D-WA]	D · WA		Apr 27, 2017
Sen. Isakson, Johnny [R-GA]	R · GA		Sep 27, 2017
Sen. Graham, Lindsey [R-SC]	R · SC		Oct 2, 2017
Sen. Smith, Tina [D-MN]	D · MN		Feb 13, 2018
Sen. Baldwin, Tammy [D-WI]	D · WI		May 24, 2018

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee	Senate	Referred To	Mar 7, 2017

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Public Lands and Natural Resources

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
115 HR 2	Related bill	Dec 20, 2018: Became Public Law No: 115-334.
115 HR 1380	Identical bill	Apr 25, 2017: Referred to the Subcommittee on Environment.

Summary (as of Mar 7, 2017)

Timber Innovation Act of 2017

This bill directs the Department of Agriculture (USDA), acting through the Research and Development and the State and Private Forestry deputy areas of the Forest Service, to conduct performance-driven research and development, education, and technical assistance to facilitate the use of innovative wood products in wood building construction in the United States. Such activities shall give priority to: (1) improving the commercialization of such products, (2) analyzing the safety of tall wood building materials, (3) calculating and reducing the life cycle environmental footprint of tall wood building construction, and (4) analyzing the potential implications of the use of innovative wood products in building construction on wildlife.

"Tall wood building" means a building designed to be over 85 feet high and constructed with large panelized wood construction, including cross-laminated timber, nail laminated timber, glue laminated timber, laminated strand lumber, and laminated veneer lumber.

USDA shall carry out an annual competition for FY2017-FY2021 for a tall wood building design, or other innovative wood product demonstration, in accordance with the requirements for prize competitions carried out under the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980.

The Forest Service, in carrying out a wood innovation grant program, may make grants to advance the use of innovative wood products, with priority to grant proposals that include the use or retrofitting of existing sawmill facilities in counties where the average annual unemployment rate exceeded the national average by more than 1% in the previous year.

Actions Timeline

- **Mar 7, 2017:** Introduced in Senate
- **Mar 7, 2017:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.