

## S 2950

### FOREST Act of 2021

**Congress:** 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Foreign Trade and International Finance

**Introduced:** Oct 6, 2021

**Current Status:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (Oct 6, 2021)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/2950>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Schatz, Brian [D-HI]

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

### Cosponsors (8 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Oct 6, 2021
Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE]	D · DE		Oct 6, 2021
Sen. Heinrich, Martin [D-NM]	D · NM		Oct 6, 2021
Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]	D · OR		Oct 6, 2021
Sen. Murphy, Christopher [D-CT]	D · CT		Oct 6, 2021
Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA]	D · MA		Oct 6, 2021
Sen. Whitehouse, Sheldon [D-RI]	D · RI		Oct 6, 2021
Sen. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA]	D · MA		Jul 26, 2022

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Finance Committee	Senate	Referred To	Oct 7, 2021

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Foreign Trade and International Finance

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 HR 5508	Identical bill	Nov 1, 2022: Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.

## **Fostering Overseas Rule of law and Environmentally Sound Trade Act of 2021 or the FOREST Act of 2021**

This bill restricts certain commodities produced on illegally deforested land from accessing the U.S. market.

Specifically, the bill prohibits the importation of any product made wholly or in part of a covered commodity produced from illegally deforested land. The bill outlines requirements for import declarations of covered commodities.

The U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) must, within 30 days, publish (1) an initial list of covered commodities that consists of palm oil, soybeans, cocoa, cattle, rubber, and wood pulp; and (2) an initial list of covered products that are defined by the bill in accordance with the Harmonized Tariff Schedule. These lists must be updated at least on an annual basis.

Further, the USTR must identify foreign countries without adequate and effective protection against illegal deforestation caused by the production of commodities that are likely to enter the United States. The USTR must develop an action plan that includes benchmarks for each identified country.

Additionally, the bill creates an interagency working group to provide advice and recommendations to the USTR, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, and other relevant agencies.

The bill provides funding to assist foreign governments in combating illegal deforestation.

The bill also includes illegal deforestation as a specified unlawful activity under a federal financial crime statute.

The bill establishes a federal procurement preference for commodities that are not produced from land subject to deforestation.

### **Actions Timeline**

---

- **Oct 6, 2021:** Introduced in Senate
- **Oct 6, 2021:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.