

November 28, 2017

Sean McGarvey President United States House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

Brent Booker Secretary Treasurer

Dear Representative,

Newton B. Jones Boilermakers

Kinsey M. Robinson Roofers

On behalf of the 3 million skilled craft professionals across North America that comprise the 14 national and international unions of NABTU, I am writing in support of H.R. 3905 Minnesota's Economic Rights (MINER) in the Superior National Forest Act.

James P. Hoffa Teamsters

Terry O'Sullivan LIUNA

James Boland Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers

Frank Christensen Elevator Constructors

Kenneth E. Rigmaiden Painters and Allied Trades

> James T. Callahan Operating Engineers

Joseph Sellers, Jr. SMART

Lonnie Stephenson **IBEW**

> Eric M. Dean Ironworkers

James P. McCourt Insulators

Daniel E. Stepano Plasterers' and Cement Masons'

Mark McManus

On January 5, 2017, the previous administration proposed a 234,328-acre federal mineral withdrawal of National Forest System lands, for a 20-year term, within the Rainy River Watershed on the Superior National Forest. The action immediately placed this vast area off limits to development for up to two years while the 20-year withdrawal is considered. The total withdrawal application boundary spans 425,000 acres, including 95,000 acres of state school trust fund lands.

With this policy in place, Minnesotans lost their mineral rights. Unable to utilize these natural resources, 17,000 jobs are at risk and roughly \$2.5 billion of economic activity is stymied. Many of our local building and construction union members are depending on these jobs.

North America's Building Trades Unions is in full support of H.R. 3905, Minnesota's Economic Rights (MINER) in the Superior National Forest Act, and urge the immediate bi-partisan passage of this legislation.

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely,

Sean McGarvey President