

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

October 21, 2025

The Honorable John Boozman
Chairman
Senate Committee on Agriculture,
Nutrition, and Forestry
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Amy Klobuchar
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Agriculture,
Nutrition, and Forestry
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Boozman and Ranking Member Klobuchar,

Thank you for your leadership on the Senate Agriculture Committee throughout the 119th Congress to advance effective and bipartisan legislation that supports not only our agriculture and forestry industries, but our rural communities. I appreciate the opportunity to submit comments for inclusion in the hearing record regarding my bill, the *Talladega National Forest Expansion Act* (S. 1350), which would modify the boundaries of the Talladega National Forest in Alabama.

The *Talladega National Forest Expansion Act* would expand the proclamation boundary of the Talladega National Forest by approximately 50,000 acres in three counties in East Alabama. This bill authorizes the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) to purchase land from willing sellers, boosting tourism, stimulating local economies, and promoting conservation in the surrounding areas.

Additionally, Alabama's premiere long-distance hiking trail, the Pinhoti Trail, is currently interrupted by fifteen miles of road walks amongst the trail's southernmost parts, leading to concerns for hiker safety. This legislation would allow the USFS to acquire these acres and improve maintenance efforts allowing for one continuous trail.

As Alabama continues to grow, citizens need access to safe and reliable hiking trails and outdoor spaces to encourage wellness and improved health. I am proud to lead this legislation to promote both tourism and conservation efforts for all Alabamians.

Thank you both for bringing my bill forward for consideration in Committee. I look forward to working with both of you to get it across the finish line in the Senate.

Sincerely,



Tommy Tuberville
United States Senator