

## Quick Updates from Your HF Team

## House Lawmakers Review USDA Programs and Climate Change

On Wednesday, the House Agriculture Committee discussed farming and forestry programs at USDA that have an impact on climate change. Industry ally Rep. GT Thompson (R-PA) cautioned Congress against creating more red tape that could undermine the conservation success story of American farmers. In a nod to manpower shortages, former Sen. Heidi Heitkamp (D-ND), who delivered testimony as a witness, zeroed in on the importance of promoting careers in forestry and farming. Yesterday's hearing was the latest in a series on climate and forestry as lawmakers lay the groundwork for a new farm bill in 2023.

## Lawmakers Spring Forward on "Sunshine Protection Act"

On Tuesday, the Senate took the first step toward eliminating semi-annual clock changes by passing the "Sunshine Protection Act" with 100% support. While passage in the House is not a done deal, leaders from both parties are sending signals that they would support the bill. If the bill becomes law, no changes would take place until November 2023. The bill's supporters

claim the law would reduce seasonal depression and promote business by stretching daylight to the evening hours in much of the country.

## **HF On the Road Again!**

Although the Hardwood Federation is based in Washington, D.C., our member associations and companies are located across the country. Director Dana Lee Cole has packed her bags and is hitting the road to give live and in-person updates on what the Federation team is up to at industry meetings happening this spring. She has already presented to the Lake States Lumber Association Winter Meeting, the Indiana Hardwood Lumbermen's Association Convention & Exposition, the Appalachian Hardwood Manufacturers Association Spring Meeting and the North Carolina Forestry Region Meeting...the Hardwood Manufacturers Association's Western Association's National Convention and the Kentucky Forest Industries Association Annual meeting are coming up...with many more scheduled for the rest of the year. If there is a meeting she should attend, please let us know!