

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 31, 1995

Dear Mr. Leader:

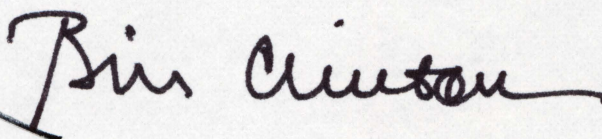
Thank you for your letter supporting our efforts to find long term solutions to softwood lumber trade issues with Canada.

On December 15, 1994, the United States and Canada established a bilateral consultative process on trade in softwood lumber and related forestry resource issues. The resultant discussions produced three workable goals: to create a better understanding between governments; to resolve the accompanying problems expeditiously; and to avoid any unnecessary litigation. These elements are based on a mutual awareness of potential benefits attainable through aligning forestry resource management with relevant market forces.

We have engaged a broad range of experts and interested parties in an effort to insure that a balanced discussion results. We are also mindful of the pressing nature of this important issue and are acting accordingly. I assure you that the United States is committed to the success of these consultations, and I am confident that Canada shares this objective.

I look forward to working closely with you to guarantee the success of our efforts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Bill Clinton". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the left.

The Honorable Bob Dole  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510