



Dear Members of the House Appropriations Committee,

On behalf of Smokey House Center, I respectfully ask you to please appropriate \$5 million for the Working Lands Enterprise Fund in FY2027.

The Working Lands Enterprise Initiative is directly supporting our Future Foresters Apprenticeship program through current grant funding, enabling us to train the next generation of forest stewards and skilled forestry professionals here in Vermont. This investment strengthens our rural workforce, supports sustainable forest management, and ensures that our working lands continue to provide economic opportunity, environmental benefits, and community resilience. We see firsthand how this funding translates into meaningful career pathways for young people and long-term vitality for Vermont's forest-based economy.

Thank you for your consideration and for your continued support of Vermont's working lands.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Walker Cammack".

Walker Cammack
Program Director
Smokey House Center