

THE TRILLION TREES AND NATURAL CARBON STORAGE ACT
Senators Mike Braun, Chris Coons, Todd Young, and Angus King
One-Page Summary

The *Trillion Trees and Natural Carbon Storage Act* is inspired by a July 2019 [study](#) published in *Science* magazine which found that forest conservation, restoration, and afforestation could [sequester](#) as much as 205 metric gigatons of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. Earlier this year, in response to growing enthusiasm for reforestation and conservation as effective natural climate solutions, the World Economic Forum launched [1t.org](#), its platform to coordinate and support global efforts in support of the One Trillion Trees initiative.

These efforts reaffirm what forest landowners and conservationists have long known: not only do healthy forests promote biodiversity, recreation, and education; they also serve as an effective natural climate solution—and a popular one at that. In fact, according to a survey conducted by [Pew Research](#), 90 percent of American adults support a “One Trillion Trees” policy to address our changing climate. However, as it stands today, the federal government is not well equipped to support this initiative at home or abroad. As a result, not only is the federal government limited in its ability to enact a bipartisan conservation policy, but also in its ability to utilize one of the most effective tools to sequester greenhouse gas emissions.

THE TRILLION TREES AND NATURAL CARBON STORAGE ACT:

- **Creates the International Forest Foundation**, a nonprofit organization, to encourage and accept private donations in support of international reforestation, restoration, and deforestation prevention efforts, as well as to coordinate with the Secretary of State regarding the federal government’s efforts related to the One Trillion Trees initiative.
- **Authorizes \$10 million for USDA Forest Nursery Revival programs** to ensure that the supply of seeds and saplings allows for increased planting.
- **Engages America’s allies in conservation** by authorizing the Secretary of State and USAID to increase their forest management cooperation efforts with other nations in order to better promote reforestation and sustainable land use management abroad.
- **Amends existing international conservation programs** to explicitly include carbon sequestration and forest management among the list of approved technical assistance categories.
- **Helps provide initial financing for voluntary carbon credit market demonstration projects** by authorizing USDA to provide loan guarantees for related projects.
- **Requires that USDA establish objectives for increasing the net carbon stock** of American forests, grasslands, wetlands, and coastal blue carbon habitats.

For more information, or to cosponsor the bill, please contact Payne Griffin in Senator Braun’s office at payne_griffin@braun.senate.gov or Anna Yelverton in Senator Coons’ office at anna_yelverton@senate.coons.gov.