



Catholics responding to Pope Francis' challenge to "hear the cry of the Earth and the cry of the poor" urge legislators to pass the Fostering Overseas Rule of Law and Environmentally Sound Trade (FOREST) Act to help our nation prevent global illegal deforestation that contributes to climate change and biodiversity loss.

This bill:

- Is designed to stop **illegal** deforestation through trade, based on the laws of the producing countries
- Focuses on imports of cattle, cocoa, palm oil, rubber and soy
- Promotes good governance, greater transparency in supply chains and accountability in global markets
- Protects American producers from unfair competition from producers overseas violating their own countries' laws
- Gives consumers greater confidence that the products we find on our grocery store shelves are sourced sustainably and ethically
- Addresses illegal deforestation that contributes to climate change and biodiversity loss
- Will ease violence against people living in the world's forests, who too often are targeted by land invasions that lead to food insecurity, loss of livelihoods and forced displacement