

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chairman of the Board
STEVE CROUCH
Newton Crouch Inc.
Griffin, GA

1st Vice Chairman of the Board
SPENCER BLACK
Triangle Chemical Co.
Macon, GA

2nd Vice Chairman of the Board
BARRY CRONIC
Columbia Farms of Georgia Inc.
Lavonia, GA

Treasurer
JERRY D. DAVIS
Heart of Georgia Peanut & Gin Co.
Hawkinsville, GA

Secretary
DONNA STEWART
HAYS-LT
Camilla, GA

Past Chairman of the Board
JIMMY CHAMPION
Champion Groves Inc.
Sylvester, GA

Past Chairman of the Board
MERRILL FOLSOM
AgSouth Farm Credit, ACA
Carrollton, GA

AgriTrust of Georgia Trustee
RAYBON ANDERSON
Bulloch Fertilizer Co. Inc.
Statesboro, GA

AgriTrust of Georgia Trustee
WAYNE CHRISTIAN
Christian Family, LLLP
Dublin, GA

CHIP BLALOCK
Sunbelt Ag Expo
Moultrie, GA

LEE BONECUTTER
Cargill
Austell, GA

BILL BRIM
Lewis Taylor Farms, Inc.
Tifton, GA

COURTNEY BRINSON
AT&T Georgia
Albany, GA

JIMMY CLEMENTS
AGSouth Genetics LLC
Albany, GA

CYNDE DICKEY
Dickey Farms
Musella, GA

TERRY HOLLIFIELD
Georgia Crop Improvement Association, Inc.
Athens, GA

WEYMAN HUNT
Godfrey's Feed
Madison, GA

BILL HURLEY
AGCO Corp.
Duluth, GA

WESLEY LANGDALE III
The Langdale Co.
Valdosta, GA

JIM LOVETT
Georgia Power Co.
Tifton, GA

CHRISTY MANNING
R.W. Griffin Industrial, LLC
Douglas, GA

RODNEY MILLER
Buford Corn Maze & Small Town Big Deal
Wray, GA

KEN MORROW
The Turfgrass Group, Inc.
Cartersville, GA

C. RANDALL NUCKOLLS
Dickens U.S. LLP
Washington, DC

JIM NUTT
Wells Fargo Commercial Banking
Alpharetta, GA

ALEC POITEVINT
Southeastern Minerals Inc.
Bainbridge, GA

DENNEY H. ROGERS
L.L. Rogers & Son, Inc.
Franklin, GA

RONNIE STAPP
Pennington Seed Inc.
Madison, GA

J. EUGENE SUTHERLAND
Sutherland's FoodService Inc.
Forest Park, GA

HEATHER TEIHET
Oglethorpe Power Corporation
Tucker, GA

CRAIG WEYNAND
John Deere Co.
Bishop, GA

STEVEN R. WOODRUFF
Woodruff & Howe Environmental Eng. Inc.
Canton, GA

Director Emeritus
WILLIAM C. "BILL" BAILEY
Whiting Farms
Dayton, TN

Director Emeritus
DARVIN EASON
South Central Georgia Gin Co., Inc.
Lenox, GA

Director Emeritus
DOYLE WELTZBARKER
Brooksco Dairy
Quitman, GA

Educational Liaison
DR. ROBERT N. SHULSTAD
University of Georgia
Athens, GA

Economic Advisor
DR. JOHN C. MCKISSICK
University of Georgia
Athens, GA



GEORGIA AGRIBUSINESS COUNCIL

COUNCIL MISSION: "To advance the business of agriculture through economic development, environmental stewardship and education to improve the quality of life for all Georgians."

To: Members of the Georgia Senate
From: Bryan Tolar, President
Hunter Loggins, Public Affairs & Education Manager
Date: March 19, 2018

The Georgia Agribusiness Council proudly represents our state's \$74.3 billion agricultural industry through our 1,100 agribusiness member companies covering every region of the state. **As you know, forestry and forest products make up a large part of this diverse industry and we are writing today asking you to support HB 876 by Senator John Wilkinson.**

HB 876 does not mandate the use of wood. It simply provides a statewide level playing field for lumber products used in construction projects, adhering to the State Fire Code. This fire code and the state standards are in place for a reason, and we should recognize and honor these uniform standards for safety and cost-effective construction.

This bill would eliminate ill-conceived local prohibitions so builders and designers could use any approved material for construction if it meets the required building and safety measures set forth by the state. **We don't grow concrete and we don't grow steel...we grow trees.** A patchwork quilt of ordinances, crafted with little or no debate, that fly in the face of a statewide safety standard is, certainly, not what Georgia needs. You can vote today to fix it by supporting HB 876.

While we can't mandate that only Georgia wood products be used in such construction projects, we can signal to the thousands of forest industry workers, and the many communities across our state where the forest industry is so vital, that we support the use of these products.

Georgia's forestry industry serves our state well and has for many generations. We urge you to vote YES on HB 876.

Please feel free to contact us if we can be of service. Thank you for your consideration.

Bryan Tolar

Hunter Loggins

