

OLVER ANNOUNCES \$200,000 TO PROMOTE USE OF WOOD PRODUCTS IN TRANSPORTATION

WASHINGTON – Congressman John W. Olver (1st District) announced today that the House Appropriations Committee has approved funding for the Massachusetts Wood in Transportation (WIT) program.

Olver serves on the Transportation Subcommittee of the Appropriations Committee and included the funding for the WIT program in the House bill.

The funding will broaden the Massachusetts Wood in Transportation (WIT) program, which works to maintain and improve rural roadways.

"Improving the infrastructure of rural roadways is a priority for me," Olver said. "This is a good program that will help improve the quality of life in rural areas."

In 1996, the state Legislature passed a Transportation Bond Bill that included \$5 million for the establishment of the WIT program.

To date, the program has worked with the Massachusetts Highway Department, Department of Environmental Management, and the Massachusetts Forestry Center.

For more information on WIT contact Joseph K. Smith, director of the Forest and Wood Products Institute, at jsmith@forestrycenter.org or <http://www.mass.gov/forestrycenter/html>.

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