

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES EXTÉRIEURES

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MINISTER KELLEHER ANNOUNCES VISIT OF U.S. CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO DISCUSS DEVELOPMENTS IN LUMBER TRADE.

The Minister for International Trade, the Honourable James F. Kelleher, announced today that American Congressman Sam Gibbons, Chairman of the House Ways & Means Subcommittee on Trade and a group of other Congressmen have accepted his invitation to visit Canada to discuss developments in Canada/U.S.A. lumber trade.

Minister Kelleher and his colleague, the Honourable Gerald Merrithew, Minister of State (Forestry), will meet with the American congressmen in Vancouver on Friday, August 2, 1985.

Mr. Kelleher expressed concern about proposals under consideration in Congress which threaten Canadian exports of softwood lumber. The Minister described the lumber issue as the most sensitive question on the bilateral trade agenda. "I met with Mr. Gibbons and other Congressional leaders in Washington last month and set out the Canadian position on this issue, " Mr. Kelleher said. "On that occasion, Mr. Gibbons accepted my invitation to come to Canada to meet with Canadian government and industry representatives to explore in more detail issues affecting our bilateral trade in softwood lumber.

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