## LONG LIVE THE LONGLEAF!

## STATE OF THE STATE TREE

- North Carolina's state tree, the longleaf pine, only occupies about 5% of its historic range.
- Fire suppression prevents the young trees from growing because competing trees block their sunlight.
- Controlled burning allows the longleafs to thrive, as well as creating new habitat for deer, songbirds, and more.

## **CHANGE IS EASY**

- Forestry officials are already trained to manage healthy, controlled fires.
- By allowing them to do their jobs, longleaf pines — and other species — will flourish.
- Controlled burns will also prevent catastrophic wildfires from occurring.
  Encourage your fellow state legislators to let science take the lead when it comes to fire in the Tar Heel State!

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