

## Mary Weaver

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**From:** Farrell, Robert <rob.farrell@dof.virginia.gov> on behalf of Farrell, Robert  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 1, 2022 5:52 PM  
**To:** DOF-ALL EMPLOYEES  
**Subject:** The Branch  
**Attachments:** 2022-01-31 Branch.pdf

Good evening everyone;

Please take a brief moment to read the announcements in the Branch so you can be aware of what is going on in the agency.

I think we are in the midst of the busiest time of any administration's term. This is the third week of the Youngkin administration and Secretary Lohr and his team are getting up to speed on legislation and budget amendments and learning about agency operations in the process. The General Assembly is in full stride with legislation and beginning to dive into the budget. We are busy tracking, responding, and providing input where we can. We are operating in a very narrow space this year since the current budget amendments and bills were submitted prior to the current administration. Fortunately there are many entities engaged at the General Assembly who support forests and trees and forestry and that value VDOF and the work that we do. These are exciting times and I look forward to being able to look back on them.

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