

1 SJR11
2 197773-2
3 By Senators Allen and Marsh
4 RFD: Rules
5 First Read: 19-MAR-19

1 SJR11

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4 ENROLLED, SJR11,

5 MEMORIALIZING THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES TO
6 APPROVE THE UNITED STATES-MEXICO-CANADA AGREEMENT.

7
8 WHEREAS, it is of great importance to memorialize
9 the Congress of the United States to approve the United
10 States-Mexico-Canada Agreement, USMCA, in order to ensure
11 continuity in trade among the three North American economic
12 partners; and

13 WHEREAS, the imposition of artificial barriers to
14 free and open trade is harmful to American economic interests;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, together, the United States, Canada, and
17 Mexico promote a shared belief in freedom, representative
18 democracy, and market principles, as recognized in the U.S.
19 Constitution; and

20 WHEREAS, a longstanding, close trilateral
21 relationship, codified in the North American Free Trade
22 Agreement, NAFTA, has existed between the United States,
23 Canada, and Mexico for more than twenty years, and has proven
24 economically, culturally, and strategically important for all

1 parties, and this relationship will continue with ratification
2 of USMCA; and

3 WHEREAS, since NAFTA entered into force in 1994,
4 trade with Canada and Mexico has nearly quadrupled to 1.3
5 trillion dollars, and the two countries buy more than
6 one-third of U.S. merchandise exports; and

7 WHEREAS, for 43 states in the United States, Canada
8 and Mexico represent their first or second largest export
9 market, and all but one U.S. State counts Canada or Mexico as
10 a top three trading partner; and

11 WHEREAS, NAFTA has contributed to a 350 percent
12 increase in U.S. agricultural exports to Canada and Mexico;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, the United States ran a cumulative trade
15 surplus in manufactured goods with Canada and Mexico of more
16 than 79 billion dollars over the six-year period from
17 2008-2014, with a surplus in services over 41 billion dollars
18 in 2014 alone; and

19 WHEREAS, NAFTA has been a boon to competitiveness of
20 U. S. manufacturers, which added more than 800,000 jobs in the
21 four years after NAFTA entered into force, with Canadians and
22 Mexicans purchasing 478 billion dollars of U.S. manufactured
23 goods in 2014, generating nearly 40,000 dollars in export
24 revenue for every American factory worker; and

1 WHEREAS, U.S. service exports to Canada and Mexico
2 have tripled, rising from 27 billion dollars in 1993, to 92
3 billion dollars in 2014, thanks to new market access and
4 clearer rules afforded by NAFTA, which will be continued under
5 USMCA; and

6 WHEREAS, Canada and Mexico are the two top export
7 destinations for U.S. small and medium-sized enterprises, more
8 than 125,000 of which sold their goods and services in Canada
9 and Mexico in 2014; and

10 WHEREAS, trade among the North American trading
11 partners is made up predominantly of intellectual property
12 IP-intensive goods and services that employ millions of
13 Americans in high paying jobs, and generate billions of
14 dollars in economic output; and

15 WHEREAS, trade agreements are the most appropriate
16 mechanism to harmonize and strengthen IP rights protections,
17 ensuring domestic and foreign businesses are on the same equal
18 footing before the law; and

19 WHEREAS, many of the IP-intensive goods, services,
20 and exchanges through which trade is facilitated in the NAFTA
21 bloc did not exist when the agreement was drafted, and this
22 situation has resulted in uneven and weak IP enforcement; and

23 WHEREAS, stringent enforcement of IP rights has been
24 found to correlate closely with greater household income,
25 Foreign Direct Investment, and Gross Domestic Product; and

1 WHEREAS, the IP provisions found in the USMCA are
2 the most comprehensive of any multilateral U.S. trade
3 agreement, and they are vastly superior to those included in
4 NAFTA; now therefore,

5 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
6 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That by this resolution, we
7 memorialize the Congress of the United States to approve the
8 United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement, USMCA, in order to
9 ensure continuity in trade among the three North American
10 economic partners; upon adoption, an official copy of this
11 resolution shall be prepared and presented to the President of
12 the United States, to the chairs, ranking members, and all
13 other members of the U.S. Senate Finance and the U.S. House
14 Ways and Means Committees, to the members of the Senate and
15 House Advisory Groups on Negotiations, to the U.S. Trade
16 Representative, to the U.S. Secretaries of Commerce, State,
17 and Labor, to the Director of the Office of Management and the
18 Budget, and to the Intellectual Property Enforcement
19 Coordinator.

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President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

Speaker of the House of Representatives

SJR11
Senate 02-APR-19
I hereby certify that the within Senate Joint Resolution
originated in and was adopted by the Senate.

Patrick Harris,
Secretary.

House of Representatives
Adopted: 30-APR-19

By: Senator Allen