

# State of Vermont

## Senate Chamber



Montpelier, Vermont

### Senate Resolution

By Senator Lyons,

**S.R. 12.** Senate resolution relating to the public policy implications of the proposed Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement and the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership.

*Whereas*, the proposed Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPPA) is a multinational trade agreement in the Asia-Pacific region which, if implemented, could create the largest trading bloc in the world, and

*Whereas*, the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) is a free trade agreement being negotiated with the European Union that could override Vermont's constitutionally guaranteed authority to pass laws and implement policies on a wide range of domestic issues, and

*Whereas*, the negotiations for the two trade agreements lack transparency and concern terms going beyond tariff agreements, and

*Whereas*, the trade agreements could impact state sovereignty and restrict the ability of Vermont to regulate certain corporate activities impacting the environment, health care, tobacco products, pharmaceuticals, energy, and agriculture, and

*Whereas*, states do not have an equal advisory capacity in the trade negotiations as that given to businesses, and

*Whereas*, the negotiating texts have not been published and there has not been public debate on U.S. trade policy, *now therefore be it*

***Resolved by the Senate:***

That the Senate of the State of Vermont requests the United States Trade Representative (USTR): (1) to increase transparency in TTIP and TPPA free-trade negotiations, (2) to publish information going beyond tariff negotiations, (3) to give states as equal an advisory role in the negotiations as that given to businesses, and (4) to consider state sovereignty and the impact of the trade agreements on state and local laws, *and be it further*

***Resolved:*** That the Secretary of the Senate be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the USTR and the Vermont Congressional Delegation.