SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8018

State of Washington 64th Legislature 2016 Regular Session

By Senators Chase, Roach, Ranker, Conway, and Honeyford

Read first time 01/21/16. Referred to Committee on Trade & Economic Development.

1 TO THE HONORABLE BARACK OBAMA, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, 2 AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF 3 REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF 4 THE UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED:

5 We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of 6 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, 7 respectfully represent and petition as follows:

8 WHEREAS, The 2015 Agreement on Land, Rail, Marine, and Air 9 Transport Preclearance was signed by the United States and Canada as 10 part of the Beyond the Border Action Plan and reaffirmed the United 11 States and Canadian joint commitment to enhancing security while 12 facilitating lawful travel and trade; and

13 WHEREAS, The preclearance agreement gives United States Customs 14 and Border Protection and Canada Border Services Agency officials the 15 authority to conduct border security and inspections in the other 16 country prior to departure; and

17 WHEREAS, Making cross-border transit more efficient for business 18 travel, tour operators, and independent leisure travelers, when the 19 is implemented, will preclearance agreement greatly enhance 20 competitiveness of the Pacific Northwest's fifty-five billion dollar 21 regional travel and tourism sector; and

22 WHEREAS, As business and leisure travel itineraries become 23 increasingly multimodal and demand for two-nation vacations grows in 1 the pacific rim market, efficient execution of preclearance will be a 2 positive signal to the investment and business climate in Washington 3 state and British Columbia;

NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully request that
Congress expedite a bill in the United States Congress to give the
United States extraterritorial jurisdiction over preclearance
officers in Canada in order to implement the 2015 Agreement on Land,
Rail, Marine, and Air Transport Preclearance.

9 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately 10 transmitted to the Honorable Barack Obama, President of the United 11 States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the 12 House of Representatives, and each member of Congress from the State 13 of Washington.

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