



RESOLUTION ON OPEN AND RECIPROCAL TRADE IN NORTH AMERICA

WHEREAS, the United States and Canada have one of the largest trading relationships in the world, and Canada is the United States' largest export market, valued at \$322 billion in goods and services; and

WHEREAS, in 2016, trade between the United States and Canada totaled over \$1.7 billion in goods and services every day, supporting 9 million jobs in the U.S., and Canada is the leading export destination for 32 U.S. states; and

WHEREAS, U.S. trade with Canada and Mexico supports 14 million jobs, with 39 states counting Canada or Mexico as their top trading partner, with all but one state counting Canada or Mexico as a top three trading partner; and

WHEREAS, exports of U.S. manufactured goods totaled \$445 billion in 2016, generating \$37,000 in export revenue for every American factory worker; and

WHEREAS, in the more than 20 years since the three countries entered into the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), North American trade has tripled from \$340 billion (in 1993) to \$1.2 trillion (in 2016); and

WHEREAS, North American integration under NAFTA has helped to make the region more competitive in the world economy by providing highly integrated and valuable supply chains, common rules and harmonized regulations that increase the speed and global competitiveness of our businesses, and driving investment and imbedding value in each other's' economic success; and

WHEREAS, agricultural trade has benefited under NAFTA, which removed trade barriers for U.S. farmers to sell products such as corn, beef and pork, which in turn increased the sale of U.S.-made farm equipment and supplies in North America; and

WHEREAS, Canada and the U.S. both support making targeted improvements to NAFTA that build on the enormously successful North American partnership and our shared competitiveness in the global marketplace.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that The Council of State Governments continues to encourage our countries to respect the purpose of NAFTA by promoting policies that support and enhance the integrated nature of our supply chains and economies that provide jobs in our respective communities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be submitted to appropriate federal and congressional officials.

Adopted by The Council of State Governments' Executive Committee this 16th Day of December, 2017 in Las Vegas, Nevada.