



NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF STATE LEGISLATURES

POLICIES AND DIRECTIVES

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MEMORIAL CALENDAR

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COMMITTEE: LABOR AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

**POLICY: FOSTERING A STRONG RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN
THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA**

TYPE: MEMORIAL RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the citizens of the United States and Canada mutually benefit from a robust relationship in several areas, including but not limited to—

Economic security;

Energy security;

National security;

International security; and

WHEREAS, at a time of global conflict and uncertainty,

(1) the United States enjoys sharing the world's longest border with its close friend and ally, Canada

(2) the two nations share three oceans: the Pacific, the Atlantic, and the Arctic

(3) the two nations ensure that legal trade and activity across maritime and land borders proceed smoothly, while stopping threats such as terrorism, drug trafficking, and human trafficking; and

WHEREAS, the United States and Canada share many cross-border cultural exchanges in fields such as athletics, music, film, and religion. These exchanges serve to enrich the relationship between the two nations; and

WHEREAS, Canada and the United States host hundreds of thousands of each other's students each year, and this educational exchange strengthens binational ties, cultivates a shared pool of skilled talent, and builds lasting cultural and professional connections between the two nations; and

WHEREAS, the provinces of Alberta, Ontario, and Quebec participate in NCSL's International Affiliate Member Program, which provides a unique platform for both national and subnational governments to strengthen ties with U.S. states, enabling a deeper exchange of ideas, best practices, and mutually beneficial policies, including a renewed emphasis on global economic collaboration and trade; and

WHEREAS, the United States is Canada's largest trading partner in goods and services, and each Canadian province and territory maintains significant trade relationships with individual U.S. states, including-

- 1) Alberta, whose top five trading partner states are Illinois, Texas, Minnesota, Washington, and Oklahoma;
- 2) British Columbia, whose top five trading partner states are Washington, California, Illinois, Oregon, and Texas;
- 3) Manitoba, whose top five trading partner states are Illinois, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Texas, and North Dakota;
- 4) New Brunswick, whose top five trading partner states are Texas, Massachusetts, Maine, Rhode Island, and New Hampshire;
- 5) Newfoundland and Labrador, whose top five trading partner states are Texas, New Jersey, California, Massachusetts, and Delaware;
- 6) Nova Scotia, whose top trading partner states are Massachusetts, Illinois, South Carolina, Texas, and New York;
- 7) Ontario, whose top five trading partner states are Michigan, Texas, New York, Ohio, and Illinois;
- 8) Prince Edward Island, whose top five trading partner states are Texas, New Jersey, Massachusetts, New York, and Florida;
- 9) Quebec, whose top five trading partner states are Texas, New York, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, and Ohio;
- 10) Saskatchewan, whose top five trading partner states are California, Minnesota, Illinois, Montana, and Texas;
- 11) Northwest Territories, whose top trading partner states are Washington and Florida;
- 12) Nunavut, whose top trading partner states are Texas and Florida;
- 13) Yukon, whose top five trading partner states are Alaska, Texas, Washington, Alabama, and Illinois; and

WHEREAS, the United States and Canada are global leaders in technology and innovation, and together, can make the North American continent the most

60 economically competitive region in the world for emerging technologies such as artificial
61 intelligence; and

62 **WHEREAS**, The United States and Canada;

63 (1) are equally committed to protecting global security and promoting democracy
64 across the globe.

65 (2) work together within global institutions such as the Group of 7, Group of 20,
66 the United Nations, the Organization for Economic Co-operation and
67 Development, the World Trade Organization, and the Organization of American
68 States to advance democracy and human rights; and

69 **WHEREAS**, Canada and the US are each other's largest foreign supplier of energy.

70 This relationship allows the U.S. and Canada to not rely on adversarial nations for
71 energy security and economic growth; and

72 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the National Conference of State
73 Legislatures reaffirms its strong support for the enduring partnership between the United
74 States and Canada; and

75 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the National Conference of
76 State Legislatures encourages continued collaboration between the two nations in
77 trade, energy development, and technological innovation to enhance mutual economic
78 growth and competitiveness; and

79 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the National Conference of
80 State Legislatures supports ongoing joint efforts between the United States and Canada
81 to promote global security, democratic governance, and respect for human rights; and

82 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the National Conference of
83 State Legislatures recognizes the importance of maintaining and strengthening cross-
84 border relationships at the federal, state, provincial, and local levels.

85 **BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that the National Conference of State Legislatures
86 reaffirms its commitment to fostering a strong, cooperative, and forward-looking
87 relationship between the United States and Canada, and supports continued efforts to

88 deepen collaboration in economic growth, technological innovation, and the promotion
89 of shared democratic values.