

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 57th Legislature (2020)

SENATE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION 6

By: Dahm

AS INTRODUCED

A Concurrent Resolution supporting congressional approval of the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA); and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, the imposition of artificial barriers to free and open trade are harmful to American economic interests; and

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

WHEREAS, a longstanding, close tri-lateral relationship, codified in the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), has existed between the United States, Canada and Mexico for more than twenty-five (25) years and has proven economically, culturally and strategically important for all parties and this relationship will continue with ratification of USMCA; and

WHEREAS, trade with Canada and Mexico supports nearly 12 million American jobs, and nearly 5 million of those jobs are supported by

1 increased trade generated by NAFTA and these benefits will continue
2 with ratification of USMCA; and

3 WHEREAS, since NAFTA entered into force in 1994, trade with
4 Canada and Mexico has nearly quadrupled to \$1.3 trillion, and the
5 two countries buy more than 1/3 of U.S. merchandise exports; and

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

10 WHEREAS, Canada and Mexico are the two largest trading partners
11 for Oklahoma with 28.6% of the state's goods exports going to Canada
12 and another 9.4% going to Mexico; and

13 WHEREAS, NAFTA has contributed to a 405% increase in U.S.
14 agricultural exports to Canada and Mexico; and

15 WHEREAS, the modernized USMCA may prove even more beneficial to
16 the agricultural sector than NAFTA and will offer a higher degree of
17 certainty and stability to farmers; and

18 WHEREAS, U.S. service exports to Canada and Mexico have tripled,
19 rising from \$27.5 billion in 1993 to \$91.3 billion in 2017, thanks
20 to new market access and clearer rules afforded by NAFTA which will
21 be continued under USMCA; and

22 WHEREAS, Canada and Mexico are the top two export destinations
23 for U.S. small and medium-sized enterprises, more than 125,000 of
24

1 which sold their goods and services in Canada and Mexico in 2014;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, trade among our North American trading partners is made
4 up predominantly of intellectual property-intensive goods and
5 services that employ millions of Americans in high paying jobs and
6 generate billions of dollars in economic output; and

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

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

14 WHEREAS, the IP provisions found in the USMCA are the most
15 comprehensive of any multilateral U.S. trade agreement and are
16 vastly superior to those included in NAFTA.

17 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 2ND SESSION
18 OF THE 57TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
19 CONCURRING THEREIN:

20 THAT the Legislature of the State of Oklahoma applauds the
21 newly-negotiated USMCA.

22 THAT the Legislature of the State of Oklahoma urges Congress to
23 approve USMCA in order to ensure continuity in trade among the three
24 North American economic partners.

1 THAT upon adoption, an official copy of this Resolution be
2 prepared and presented to the President of the United States, to the
3 Chairmen and Ranking members, and all other members of the U.S.
4 Senate Finance and the U.S. House Ways and Means Committees, to the
5 members of the Senate and House Advisory Groups on Negotiations, to
6 the U.S. Trade Representative, to the U.S. Secretaries of Commerce,
7 State and Labor, to the Director of the Office of Management and
8 Budget and to the Intellectual Property Enforcement Coordinator.

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