



HR0085

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The United States and Canada share not only a  
3 5,522-mile border, which is the world's longest, most peaceful,  
4 and secure border, but also a vibrant history of democratic  
5 governance, military, and economic partnerships, environmental  
6 stewardship, and cultural ties; and

7

WHEREAS, Relations between Canada and the United States  
8 span more than two centuries; together, our nations have  
9 developed one of the most successful international  
10 relationships in the modern world; and

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WHEREAS, The relationship between Canada and the United  
12 States is unique in the world; our nations have a shared  
13 prosperity, fostered by two-way investments and jobs; and

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WHEREAS, Canada and the United States have the largest and  
15 most comprehensive trade relationship in the world; and

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WHEREAS, Canada is the largest foreign trade partner and  
17 the top export destination for the State of Illinois; and

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WHEREAS, 299,100 Illinois jobs were dependent on trade with  
19 Canada in 2011; in total, more than 8 million jobs in the  
20 United States depend on trade and investment in Canada; and

1           WHEREAS, The United States is Canada's largest export  
2 market, with the United States exporting \$337 billion to Canada  
3 in 2011 and importing \$342 billion in goods and services from  
4 Canada in 2011; and

5           WHEREAS, Canada is the State of Illinois' most important  
6 primary export market, with \$55.2 billion worth of merchandise  
7 and goods in bilateral trade exchanged; 30% of Illinois'  
8 worldwide exports were sold to Canada in 2011; and

9           WHEREAS, Canadian-owned companies employ more than 23,000  
10 workers in Illinois and many Illinois companies have operations  
11 in Canada; and

12           WHEREAS, More than 400,000 people peacefully cross the  
13 Canada-United States border daily; and

14           WHEREAS, 913,200 Canadians visited Illinois in 2011,  
15 spending \$261 million; 494,700 citizens from the Land of  
16 Lincoln visited Canada in 2011, spending \$256 million; and

17           WHEREAS, Canada has become the United States' largest  
18 supplier of energy and provides our nation with the largest and  
19 most secure supply of oil, electricity, uranium, and natural  
20 gas; and

1           WHEREAS, Canada has vast oil reserves, which have the  
2 potential to substantially reduce the United States'  
3 dependence on energy sources outside of North America; and

4           WHEREAS, The United States and Canada have interconnected  
5 electricity grids and pipelines; our countries also share  
6 hydro-electric facilities on the western and eastern borders;  
7 and

8           WHEREAS, The State of Illinois imported \$22.8 billion in  
9 crude petroleum products from Canada in 2011; and

10          WHEREAS, Canada and Illinois have a robust and  
11 complementary agricultural trade; and

12          WHEREAS, The United States and Canada also share a very  
13 special and important security and defense relationship;  
14 Canada and the United States are both founding members of the  
15 North Atlantic Treaty Organization and forces from the two  
16 nations have fought alongside each other major conflicts  
17 throughout history and around the globe; and

18          WHEREAS, Defense arrangements between the United States  
19 and Canada are more extensive than with any other nation, and  
20 Canada is a major ally of the United States; and

1           WHEREAS, 2012 marks the 65th anniversary of the  
2 establishment of Canada's Consulate General in Illinois; and

3           WHEREAS, Canada and Illinois share deep economic,  
4 historical, cultural, and familial ties; therefore, be it

5           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
6 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
7 we express our greatest appreciation to the people and  
8 government of Canada for their long history of friendship and  
9 cooperation with the people and government of Illinois and the  
10 United States; and be it further

11           RESOLVED, That we recognize the important economic and  
12 trade relationship between our nations and recognize the great  
13 economic relationship between Canada and the State of Illinois;  
14 and be it further

15           RESOLVED, That we acknowledge the partnership and  
16 cooperation between Illinois and Canada on many issues,  
17 including Great Lakes stewardship, environmental protection,  
18 energy and agricultural trade, and support continued and  
19 increased trade with the nation of Canada; and be it further

20           RESOLVED, That we salute our neighbors to the north for

1 their continued cooperation and efforts to jointly secure North  
2 America; and be it further

3       RESOLVED, That we honor the 65-year history of the Canadian  
4 Consulate in the State of Illinois; and be it further

5       RESOLVED, That we join with the great nation of Canada in  
6 looking forward to many more years of cooperation, friendship,  
7 trade, tourism, and goodwill; and be it further

8       RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
9 presented to the official representative of the nation of  
10 Canada in recognition of the mutual respect and friendship  
11 between the people of the State of Illinois and Canada.