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HOUSE MEMORIAL 86

53RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2018

INTRODUCED BY

Nathan P. Small and Larry R. Scott

A MEMORIAL

RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF THE NORTH AMERICAN FREE TRADE AGREEMENT TO NEW MEXICO'S ECONOMY, TO OTHER STATES ON THE BORDER WITH MEXICO AND TO THE GENERAL AMERICAN ECONOMY; REQUESTING THAT THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT COMMIT TO PROTECTING THE CURRENT AND ONGOING INVESTMENT THAT IS PREDICATED ON THE AGREEMENT AS IT NEGOTIATES WITH MEXICO AND CANADA TO MODERNIZE THE AGREEMENT.

WHEREAS, for over two decades, the North American Free Trade Agreement, commonly referred to as NAFTA, has strengthened the economic, cultural and strategic bonds between the United States of America, Mexico and Canada; and

WHEREAS, in a review of the North American Free Trade Agreement, the international trade administration of the United States department of commerce reported that American exports to

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1 Canada and Mexico had grown by nearly four hundred thirty
2 billion dollars (\$430,000,000,000) during the agreement's first
3 twenty years; and

4 WHEREAS, in 2015, *Fortune* magazine reported that total
5 trade among the three countries was nearly one trillion dollars
6 (\$1,000,000,000,000); and

7 WHEREAS, in January 2018, global affairs Canada reported
8 that annual New Mexico exports of good and services to Canada
9 total three hundred thirty-nine million dollars (\$339,000,000)
10 and that Canadian travelers spend twenty-nine million dollars
11 (\$29,000,000) in New Mexico annually;

12 WHEREAS, in 2016, the border industrial association
13 reported that since 2007, all four of the border states have
14 experienced strong growth in their international exports to
15 Mexico; and

16 WHEREAS, respectively, California has experienced forty-
17 six percent growth, Texas has experienced sixty-five percent
18 growth, Arizona has experienced seventy-five percent growth and
19 New Mexico has experienced three hundred fifty percent growth;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, forty-five percent of New Mexico's current
22 international export trade is with Mexico and, of the ten
23 thousand four hundred jobs in New Mexico that are directly tied
24 to the North American Free Trade Agreement, most are tied to
25 trade with Mexico; and

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1 WHEREAS, vast international logistics routes have been
2 developed to take advantage of the consumer and labor markets
3 created by the North American Free Trade Agreement; and

4 WHEREAS, Union Pacific, with the help of millions of
5 dollars of tax expenditure incentives from the state of New
6 Mexico, has built a large transmodal shipping center in the
7 Sunland Park/Santa Teresa area in New Mexico to serve the
8 national and international trade that is leveraged through the
9 North American Free Trade Agreement; and

10 WHEREAS, the Union Pacific transmodal shipping center is
11 the linchpin for the Sunset limited shipping route serving
12 communities through its eastern branches from New Orleans,
13 Louisiana, and Houston, Texas, to Long Beach, California, at
14 its western terminus; and

15 WHEREAS, significant public and private business
16 investment is ongoing in a number of locations in New Mexico to
17 develop warehousing, manufacturing and distribution facilities
18 to leverage the potential of the logistics routes created by
19 the North American Free Trade Agreement; and

20 WHEREAS, the existing and growing business sector tied to
21 the North American Free Trade Agreement is a critical element
22 in the diversification of New Mexico's job market;

23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
24 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the United
25 States government be requested to commit to continuing

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1 negotiations until a modernized North American Free Trade
2 Agreement is completed that does not undercut existing
3 investment or disrupt the ongoing investment in infrastructure
4 and promotes the full potential for economic growth of the
5 partners to the agreement; and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
7 sent to the president of the United States, the president of
8 Mexico, the prime minister of Canada, the United States
9 secretary of state, the United States trade representative, the
10 secretary of economy of Mexico, the minister of foreign affairs
11 of Canada and the governor of New Mexico.