



Eastern Regional Conference

THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS

RESOLUTION # CA-2019-01

RESOLUTION ON 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 \$361 billion in goods and services in 2018; and

WHEREAS, in 2018 trade between the United States and Canada totaled more than \$721 billion in goods and services; and

WHEREAS, 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, the Council of State Governments Eastern Regional Conference (CSG/ERC) believes that free, open, and reciprocal trade between our two countries will continue to strengthen the economies of both nations; and

WHEREAS, in the more than 20 years since the United States, Canada, and Mexico entered into the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), North American trade has tripled from \$340 billion (in 1993) to \$1.2 trillion (in 2018); 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

WHEREAS, the United States, Canada, and Mexico have now negotiated the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement, or USMCA, that makes targeted improvements to NAFTA that build on the enormously successful North American partnership, enhancing our shared competitiveness in the global marketplace, and providing stability and predictability for American and Canadian businesses and workers; and

WHEREAS, a seamless transition between NAFTA and the USMCA will ensure that none of the benefits in trade accomplished by the integration of the three North American economies will be lost;

CT • DE • MA • MD • ME • NB • NH • NJ • NY • NS • ON • PA • PE • PR • QC • RI • VI • VT

Sen. Joe Scarnati, *President Pro Tempore, PA, Co-Chair*
Rep. Ryan Mackenzie, *PA, Co-Chair*

Wendell M. Hannaford, *Director*



Eastern Regional Conference

THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that CSG/ERC recognizes the highly integrated economy that the United States and Canada share; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that since the USMCA can only enter into force upon ratification in all three countries, CSG/ERC encourages each country to move ahead with their respective domestic ratification process; and

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