



EAST

RESOLUTION # CA-2021-01

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE FULL REOPENING OF THE UNITED STATES-CANADA BORDER TO FULLY VACCINATED INDIVIDUALS

Whereas, on August 9, 2021, the Government of Canada officially reopened its border to U.S. citizens and permanent residents who are currently residing in the United States and have been fully vaccinated at least 14 days prior to entering Canada for non-essential travel; and

Whereas, the U.S. border remains closed to non-essential travel by Canadian citizens; and

Whereas, the Government of Canada asks fully vaccinated U.S. citizens entering Canada to go through a lengthy entry process through the *ArriveCAN* web portal; and

Whereas, the United States and Canada have enjoyed the most prosperous relationship in the world, amounting to over \$1 trillion in trade and investment annually; and

Whereas, Canada is the second-largest source of foreign direct investment in the United States, employing roughly 500,000 Americans; and

Whereas, the United States and Canada are each other's largest markets for agricultural trade, totaling \$48 billion in two-way trade in 2019; and

Whereas, this relationship has been based on the efficient movement of people, goods, and services, while working together to secure the border from threats; and

Whereas, the interpretation of what is considered essential travel has been a matter of discretion by individual border crossing agents, creating confusion; and

Whereas, the Government of Canada's Expert Advisory Committee on COVID-19 and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention advise that infections occur in only a very small percentage of people who are fully vaccinated, even with the Delta variant, and that such infections tend to be mild among those who are vaccinated.

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Hon. Ted Arnott, Speaker, Ontario, *Chair*

Sen. Sharon Carson, New Hampshire, *Co-Vice Chair*
Sen. Lou D'Allesandro, New Hampshire, *Co-Vice Chair*

David N. Biette, *Director*



Whereas, the United States Government has yet to provide any timeline or possible plan to allow Canadian Citizens to travel to the United States;

Whereas, both the United States Government and the Canadian Government have worked diligently to vaccinate their citizens and continue to ramp up efforts to do so; now,

Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the Council of State Governments' Eastern Regional Conference (CSG East) does hereby request that the federal government of the United States fully reopen the border to all fully vaccinated individuals immediately, and

Be It Further Resolved, that CSG East requests that the Canadian federal government simplify the currently lengthy *ArriveCAN* entry process for fully vaccinated U.S. citizens and permanent residents, and

Be It Further Resolved, that CSG East calls on the federal government of the United States to reciprocate with a swift and simple entry process for fully vaccinated individuals, once the border has reopened to Canadians, and

Be It Further Resolved, that this resolution be submitted to appropriate state, federal, and provincial officials in both the United States and Canada.