

By: Gutierrez

H.R. No. 408

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Since its ratification in 1994, the North American
2 Free Trade Agreement has produced great opportunities for economic
3 growth and development in the United States and our bordering
4 countries; and

5 WHEREAS, According to the U.S. Census Bureau, American trade
6 with Canada and Mexico has tripled under NAFTA, reaching an annual
7 total of \$1 trillion in 2015; Mexico is America's third-largest
8 export market for agricultural products, including corn, soybeans,
9 dairy, pork, and beef, and each year Texas sends about 36 percent of
10 the state's total exports to Mexico; and

11 WHEREAS, NAFTA has significantly benefited American workers
12 by creating myriad new avenues for employment; a 2014 study
13 conducted by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce showed that nearly five
14 million U.S. jobs, including some 350,000 in Texas, are supported
15 by increased trade from NAFTA; in addition, 90 percent of Fortune
16 500 companies have investments in Mexico; and

17 WHEREAS, Any increase in tariffs on Mexican imports would
18 also raise U.S. prices for American-made goods, because the cost of
19 parts produced in Mexico and shipped to manufacturing facilities in
20 the United States would rise steeply; this fallout from a change in
21 our trade policy would have an especially great impact on consumers
22 of automobiles and electronics; and

23 WHEREAS, Through NAFTA, Canada and Mexico have become
24 America's largest and third-largest trading partners,

1 respectively, and a major change to this historic agreement would
2 place the continued growth of our economy at risk; now, therefore,
3 be it

4 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
5 Legislature hereby respectfully urge Congress to preserve the North
6 American Free Trade Agreement and work toward expanding economic
7 opportunity through international commerce for the betterment of
8 our country; and, be it further

9 RESOLVED, That the chief clerk of the house forward official
10 copies of this resolution to the president of the United States, to
11 the president of the Senate and the speaker of the House of
12 Representatives of the United States Congress, and to all the
13 members of the Texas delegation to Congress with the request that
14 this resolution be entered in the Congressional Record as a
15 memorial to the Congress of the United States of America.