

By: Parker

H.R. No. 1160

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Texas is the nation's leading trade state, and its  
2 future prosperity depends on bolstering trade among our North  
3 American partners; and

4 WHEREAS, The United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement, which  
5 awaits ratification by the U.S. Congress, will create a more level  
6 playing field for American workers, ensure opportunities for trade  
7 in U.S. services, and benefit farmers, ranchers, and agribusiness;  
8 moreover, it modernizes protections for intellectual property,  
9 promotes collaboration in tackling cybersecurity, and ensures that  
10 digital trade data can be transferred cross-border with protections  
11 for the global digital ecosystem; and

12 WHEREAS, Texas exports totaled \$315 billion in 2018; the  
13 state accounts for almost 20 percent of the nation's trade total,  
14 and 45 percent of Lone Star exports are destined for Mexico and  
15 Canada; more than 90 percent of Texas exporters are small  
16 businesses, and the USMCA cuts red tape, making it easier for them  
17 to tap into foreign markets; approximately 44 percent of our  
18 state's agricultural products are exported, and the agreement  
19 provides enhanced market access for eggs, poultry, dairy, and  
20 certain food crops; and

21 WHEREAS, In 2017, Texas energy exports to Canada and Mexico  
22 totaled almost \$17 billion; the USMCA will promote the stability of  
23 this industry by preserving and expanding market integration for  
24 greater certainty, efficiency, and interregional investment; and

1           WHEREAS, Texas has more U.S. ports of entry than any other  
2 state, and Laredo and El Paso are the two busiest trade stations  
3 doing business with Mexico; while offering new commitments for  
4 market access, the USMCA also addresses nontariff barriers related  
5 to trade in remanufactured goods and import and export licensing;  
6 and

7           WHEREAS, Nearly one million jobs in Texas are supported by  
8 trade with Mexico and Canada; experts calculate that failure to  
9 ratify the USMCA could result in the loss of as many as 300,000 of  
10 those jobs; as North America has become more economically  
11 integrated, a collaborative approach to trade is absolutely  
12 necessary to protect American jobs and workers while fostering  
13 innovation; and

14           WHEREAS, The trade landscape has shifted dramatically over  
15 the past two decades, and the USMCA is designed to adapt to the new  
16 terrain by strengthening our nation's export capabilities and  
17 setting the standard for global trade agreements that will spur  
18 continued economic dynamism for years to come; now, therefore, be  
19 it

20           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas  
21 Legislature hereby respectfully urge the U.S. Congress to unite in  
22 bipartisan support for the ratification of the United  
23 States-Mexico-Canada Agreement; and, be it further

24           RESOLVED, That the chief clerk forward official copies of  
25 this resolution to the president of the United States, to the  
26 president of the Senate and the speaker of the House of  
27 Representatives of the United States Congress, and to all the

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1 members of the Texas delegation to Congress with the request that  
2 this resolution be entered in the Congressional Record as a  
3 memorial to the Congress of the United States of America.