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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 4021

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State of Washington

54th Legislature

1995 Regular Session

By Representatives Elliot, Cairnes, Sheahan, Thompson, Pelesky, Fuhrman, Radcliff, Brumsickle, Dickerson, Johnson, Quall, Smith, Sheldon, McMahan, Clements, Chandler, D. Schmidt, K. Schmidt, Hankins, Robertson, Reams, Crouse, Kremen, Mastin, Benton, Foreman, Honeyford, Basich, Mulliken, Carrell and Campbell

Read first time 02/10/95. Referred to Committee on Law & Justice.

1 TO THE HONORABLE BILL CLINTON, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, AND  
2 TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF  
3 REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
4 UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED:

5 We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of  
6 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully  
7 represent and petition as follows:

8 WHEREAS, Effective fiscal management is manifestly one of the  
9 highest governmental priorities; and

10 WHEREAS, The cost for incarceration of criminal offenders is an  
11 enormous economic hardship and burden upon the taxpayers of the United  
12 States; and

13 WHEREAS, Foreign national criminal offenders are a substantial and  
14 increasing percentage of our state and federal prison population; and

15 WHEREAS, A high percentage of foreign national criminal offenders  
16 are of Mexican nationality and have entered or remained in the United  
17 States unlawfully and in violation of immigration laws; and

18 WHEREAS, Incarceration of such foreign national criminal offenders  
19 creates a tremendous and incessant burden upon the state and federal  
20 budgets; and

1       WHEREAS, The cost of incarceration of such foreign national  
2 criminal offenders should be borne by the country of nationality and  
3 not unfairly and unjustly shifted to the taxpayers of the United  
4 States; and

5       WHEREAS, An economic exigency and fiscal crisis exists in the  
6 continued allocation to the United States taxpayers of the costs of  
7 incarceration of such foreign national criminal offenders;

8       NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that Congress  
9 recognize the economic exigency and fiscal crisis that exists to the  
10 taxpayers of the United States for the incarceration of such foreign  
11 national criminal offenders, to wit, criminal offenders of Mexican  
12 nationality, which creates an unjust and unfair economic burden and  
13 hardship to the United States taxpayers, and undertake to negotiate  
14 with the government of Mexico to establish a mechanism for deporting  
15 Mexican foreign national criminal offenders, while maintaining  
16 sentencing and punishment parity for their crimes against the peace and  
17 dignity of the citizens of the United States, or establish an agreement  
18 of remuneration for the costs associated with incarceration of Mexican  
19 foreign national criminal offenders, as to alleviate the unfair and  
20 unjust burden upon the taxpayers of the United States.

21       BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately  
22 transmitted to the Honorable Bill Clinton, President of the United  
23 States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the  
24 House of Representatives, and each member of Congress from the State of  
25 Washington.

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