
SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8013

State of Washington 55th Legislature 1997 Regular Session

By Senators Benton, Patterson, Morton and Oke

Read first time 03/11/97. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 TO THE HONORABLE WILLIAM J. CLINTON, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED
2 STATES, AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE
3 OF REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
4 THE 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, The North American Free Trade Agreement was entered into
9 by the United States of America with the intention of improving trade
10 relations between the United States, Canada, and Mexico; and

11 WHEREAS, Trade with Canada and Mexico has continued to grow, with
12 higher growth in the future likely, related to the free trade
13 agreement; and

14 WHEREAS, Increased trade has had significant impact on the highway
15 and other transportation systems of many states, particularly those
16 which border Canada or Mexico and which experience significant through
17 movement; and

18 WHEREAS, States have always had a partnership with the Federal
19 government in providing an adequate and safe road system to address the
20 needs of interstate commerce; and

1 WHEREAS, The increased trade with Canada has had significant impact
2 on many highway corridors in Washington including Interstate 5,
3 Interstate 90, U.S. 97, and U.S. 395, with increased truck loadings and
4 volumes which are deteriorating pavements quicker and adding to already
5 congested conditions at border crossings and along major trade
6 corridors; and

7 WHEREAS, Studies in Washington have shown that up to seventy
8 percent of the Canadian trade on Washington highways passes through the
9 state without serving Washington residents or businesses; and

10 WHEREAS, Current state and federal funding is inadequate to address
11 capacity expansion and wear on impacted corridors;

12 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that the United
13 States Congress and the United States Department of Transportation
14 recognize the national interest in and responsibility for interstate
15 commerce, and adopt appropriate laws and policies in federal
16 transportation programs and in the formulas for federal-aid surface
17 transportation funding to address the increased burden on states like
18 Washington impacted by the North American Free Trade Agreement,
19 especially for border crossings and major trade corridors.

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

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