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**SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8016**

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**State of Washington**

**62nd Legislature**

**2012 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Kastama, Shin, Chase, Hatfield, Kilmer, and Fraser; by request of Lieutenant Governor

Read first time 01/26/12. Referred to Committee on Economic Development, Trade & Innovation.

1 TO THE HONORABLE BARACK OBAMA, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, AND  
2 TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF  
3 REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO EACH MEMBER OF CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF  
4 WASHINGTON, THE SECRETARY OF THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE, THE  
5 UNITED STATES ATTORNEY GENERAL, THE SECRETARY OF THE UNITED STATES  
6 DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY, THE SECRETARY OF THE UNITED STATES  
7 DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, AND THE SECRETARY OF THE UNITED STATES  
8 DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION:

9 We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of  
10 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully  
11 represent and petition as follows:

12 WHEREAS, The United States and Canada enjoy a partnership long  
13 rooted in a history of peaceful coexistence and one of the largest and  
14 most successful economic relationships in the world; and

15 WHEREAS, The United States and Canada are each other's largest  
16 single export market; and

17 WHEREAS, Millions of jobs in both the United States and Canada  
18 depend on the trade and investment flowing across the border between  
19 the two countries; and

1           WHEREAS, Canada is Washington's top trading partner, based on 2010  
2 data, and our companies and industries depend on integrated  
3 cross-border supply chains and production processes; and

4           WHEREAS, On February 4, 2011, the Prime Minister of Canada and the  
5 President of the United States issued a declaration on a Shared Vision  
6 for Perimeter Security and Economic Competitiveness, which called for  
7 a joint action plan; and

8           WHEREAS, The United States and Canada established a Beyond the  
9 Border Working Group composed of representatives from the relevant  
10 departments and offices of their federal governments to develop the  
11 action plan and be responsible for its implementation; and

12           WHEREAS, The Beyond the Border Action Plan was released in December  
13 of 2011; and

14           WHEREAS, The Beyond the Border Action Plan details methods for the  
15 United States and Canada to work together to enhance joint security and  
16 accelerate the legitimate flow of people, goods, and services through  
17 four areas of cooperation: (1) Addressing threats early; (2) trade  
18 facilitation, economic growth, and jobs; (3) cross-border law  
19 enforcement; and (4) critical infrastructure and cybersecurity; and

20           WHEREAS, On February 4, 2011, the Prime Minister of Canada and the  
21 President of the United States announced the creation of the United  
22 States-Canada Regulatory Cooperation Council to increase regulatory  
23 transparency and coordination between the two countries; and

24           WHEREAS, The initial Joint Action Plan of the Regulatory  
25 Cooperation Council was released in December of 2011; and

26           WHEREAS, The Action Plan on Regulatory Cooperation will help reduce  
27 barriers to trade, lower costs for consumers and business, and create  
28 economic opportunities on both sides of the border through the  
29 alignment of regulatory approaches in the areas of agriculture and  
30 food, transportation, health and personal care products, chemical  
31 management, the environment, and other cross-sectoral areas, while not  
32 compromising our health, safety, or environmental protection standards;  
33 and

34           WHEREAS, Washington has much to gain from the development of joint  
35 strategies and integrated approaches to enhance security and efficient  
36 trade between Canada and the United States;

37           NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that the  
38 President, Executive Branch Agencies, and Congress work together to see

1 that the Beyond the Border Action Plan on Perimeter Security and  
2 Economic Competitiveness and the Action Plan on Regulatory Cooperation  
3 are carried out, and that the United States' appointees to the Beyond  
4 the Border Working Group, the Regulatory Cooperation Council, and the  
5 United States' agencies responsible for implementing the Action Plans  
6 have the resources necessary to assist in realizing the goals of the  
7 Action Plans.

8 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately  
9 transmitted to the Honorable Barack Obama, President of the United  
10 States, each member of Congress from the State of Washington, the  
11 Secretary of the United States Department of State, the United States  
12 Attorney General, the Secretary of the United States Department of  
13 Homeland Security, the Secretary of the United States Department of  
14 Commerce, the Secretary of the United States Department of  
15 Transportation, the President of the United States Senate, and the  
16 Speaker of the House of Representatives.

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