HM 1307 2020

## House Memorial

A memorial to the Congress of the United States and the President of the United States commending Congress for granting trade promotion authority to the executive branch, urging the executive branch to negotiate a comprehensive and mutually beneficial free trade agreement between the United States and the United Kingdom, and urging Congress to ratify such agreement.

WHEREAS, the United States is the United Kingdom's largest single-country trade partner with a relationship valued at over \$200 billion; both countries are each other's largest foreign direct investors, having approximately \$1 trillion invested in each other's economies; and the United States-United Kingdom Trade and Investment Working Group has been laying the groundwork to strengthen trade and investment ties for the present and in the future, including through the use of a free trade agreement, and

WHEREAS, expansion of global trade, especially with the United Kingdom, is of vital importance to the growth of the United States' economy, small business participation in the international marketplace, and job creation, and

WHEREAS, this state would benefit greatly from the ratification of a comprehensive free trade agreement, which,

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since the United Kingdom is currently the largest foreign direct employer in this state and is the second largest market for tourism, would create employment opportunities for residents of this state as a direct result of removing and reducing barriers to trade and free markets, and

WHEREAS, the successful implementation of a free trade agreement will increase exports to the United Kingdom from this state, and

WHEREAS, the United States Constitution grants the United States Congress exclusive authority to regulate commerce with foreign nations, and

WHEREAS, the negotiation of a successful free trade agreement between the United States and the United Kingdom will require bipartisan cooperation between state, federal, and foreign governments, NOW, THEREFORE,

Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

That Congress of the United States is commended for granting trade promotion authority to the executive branch, the executive branch is urged to complete a timely and successful negotiation of a comprehensive and mutually beneficial free trade agreement between the United States and the United Kingdom, and the Congress of the United States is urged to ratify such agreement.

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of State dispatch copies of this memorial to the President of the United States, to the President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and to each member of the Florida delegation to the United States Congress.

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