

By Senator Gruters

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Senate Memorial

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

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11 WHEREAS, the United States is the United Kingdom's largest
12 single-country trade partner, with a relationship valued at over
13 \$200 billion; both countries are each other's largest foreign
14 direct investors, having approximately \$1 trillion invested in
15 each other's economies; and the UK-US Trade and Investment
16 Working Group has been laying the groundwork to strengthen trade
17 and investment ties for the present and in the future, including
18 through the use of a free trade agreement, and

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

23 WHEREAS, this state would benefit greatly from the
24 ratification of a comprehensive free trade agreement, which,
25 since the United Kingdom is currently the largest foreign direct
26 employer in this state and is the second largest market for
27 tourism, would create employment opportunities for residents of
28 this state as a direct result of removing and reducing barriers
29 to trade and free markets, and

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

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

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

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41 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:

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

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