

By the Committee on Commerce and Tourism; and Senator Pizzo

577-00998-22

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Senate Memorial

A memorial to the Congress of the United States and the President of the United States urging Congress to expeditiously renew trade promotion authority for 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 more than \$200 billion; the two countries are each other's largest foreign direct investors, having approximately \$1 trillion invested in their counterpart's economy; and the UK-US Trade and Investment Working Group has been laying the groundwork to strengthen trade and investment ties between the two countries, including through the use of a free trade agreement, and

WHEREAS, the 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, 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 reducing and removing barriers 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 Legislature of the State of Florida:

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43 That the Congress of the United States is urged to
44 expeditiously renew trade promotion authority for the executive
45 branch, the executive branch is urged to complete a timely and
46 successful negotiation of a comprehensive and mutually
47 beneficial free trade agreement between the United States and
48 the United Kingdom, and the Congress of the United States is
49 urged to 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 the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the
53 United States House of Representatives, and each member of the
54 Florida delegation to the United States Congress.