

By the Committee on Commerce and Tourism; and Senator Pizzo

577-00998-22

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

19 WHEREAS, the 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 reducing and removing 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 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.