

By Senator Rodriguez

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Senate Memorial

A memorial to the Congress of the United States,
urging Congress to support solutions that examine the
pollution differential between United States
production and that of other countries and that hold
foreign polluters accountable for their pollution.

WHEREAS, Florida's natural resources and environment are
essential to the state's character, economy, and way of life,
and

WHEREAS, Florida, under Governor Ron DeSantis' leadership,
has recently delivered investments to protect the state's
natural resources and environment, including Everglades
restoration, waterway rehabilitation, and water quality
infrastructure, and

WHEREAS, China, by far the world's largest polluter,
accounts for over 30 percent of global carbon dioxide emissions
and subsidizes its exports by not imposing or enforcing
reasonable environmental and labor standards, and

WHEREAS, Chinese government-owned industry is an arm of the
Chinese Communist Party and strives to increase its influence
over the global economy by pursuing predatory trade practices
such as stealing intellectual property from the United States,
and

WHEREAS, the United States has reduced more carbon
emissions than any other country in the last 15 years and has an
economy that is 44 percent more carbon efficient than the world
average, and

WHEREAS, manufacturers in the United States are more

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30 efficient in nearly every industry and yet are forced to compete
31 with companies in China and other countries that face few limits
32 on how much they pollute, and

33 WHEREAS, goods produced in China and Russia generate 300
34 percent and 400 percent on average, respectively, more in carbon
35 emissions compared to equivalent goods produced in the United
36 States, and

37 WHEREAS, United States trade policy has not taken into
38 account carbon emissions, and as a result, afforded foreign
39 polluters with loose carbon standards an advantage over the
40 United States for the past several decades, and

41 WHEREAS, China benefits from the current federal trade
42 policy, and

43 WHEREAS, rewarding United States firms for their
44 environmental performance would bolster domestic manufacturing,
45 generate good-paying jobs, and reduce dependence on imports from
46 high-emitting producers like China and Russia, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

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50 That the Congress of the United States is urged to support
51 solutions that examine the pollution differential between United
52 States production and that of other countries and that hold
53 foreign polluters accountable for their pollution.

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