

Alaska State Legislature

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 11 *RECOGNIZING ALASKA/CANADA RELATIONSHIP*

SPONSOR STATEMENT

HJR 11 commends the longstanding relationship between Alaska and Canada. The bond between these two Arctic regions is built on deep economic, cultural, and strategic ties. From shared trade routes and resource industries to defense cooperation and historical alliances, the partnership between Alaska and Canada plays a vital role in the stability and prosperity of both economies.

Alaska and Canada rely on each other for the movement of goods, energy, and natural resources. Many of Alaska's essential supply routes pass through Canada, ensuring access to fuel, food, and other critical commodities. Canadian businesses also benefit from Alaska's ports, fisheries, and industries. Beyond these economic ties, Alaska and Canada collaborate on environmental conservation and responsible resource development. Both regions have a strong commitment to Arctic cooperation, focusing on sustainable development, environmental protection, and indigenous communities' well-being.

Tourism is another cornerstone of this partnership. Thousands of Canadians travel to Alaska each year, supporting local businesses, hotels, and outdoor recreation industries. Similarly, many Alaskans venture through Canada's highways and wilderness to access the Lower 48. Alaska's cruise ship passengers too sail through Canadian waters and often stop at ports in British Columbia before reaching Alaskan destinations. This interconnected flow of people and commerce strengthens local economies and cultural bonds.

The newly proposed tariffs may disrupt this unique relationship, posing significant risks to businesses, jobs, and regional economic stability. The tariffs could increase costs, restrict trade, disrupt key industries, and potentially have long-term consequences for jobs, supply chains, and overall economic stability.

Alaska and Canada's long-standing relationship has been built over decades of trust and cooperation. Both economies are deeply connected, and tariffs could threaten to disrupt essential industries. HJR 11 reaffirms Alaska's commitment to continued cooperation, trade, and cultural exchange with Canada. Protecting this relationship is essential for Alaska's economy, jobs, and long-term stability.