

STATE OF ALASKA  
THE LEGISLATURE

2000

Source  
CSHJR 48(RLS)

Legislative  
Resolve No.  
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Relating to the free flow of people and the fair trade of goods and services across the border between the United States and Canada.

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**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

**WHEREAS**, in 1997, the International Committee and Governing Board of the Council of State Governments adopted a resolution urging the United States Congress to amend the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 to exempt Canadians from coverage under sec. 110 of that Act; and

**WHEREAS** the United States and Canada share the longest undefended border in the world; and

**WHEREAS** the United States and Canada have the largest bilateral trade relationship in the world, exceeding \$1,000,000,000 every day and supporting more than 2,000,000 jobs; and

**WHEREAS** sec. 110 of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 requires the United States Attorney General to develop an automated entry and exit control system to record the entry into and departure from the United States of all "aliens"; and

**WHEREAS** sec. 110 of the Act uses the word "alien" without any qualification and will apply to millions of Canadian citizens who enter the United States every year and have traditionally enjoyed the longstanding reciprocal privilege of summary inspection; and

**WHEREAS** implementation of this control system has been delayed, but will go into effect on March 31, 2001, imposing an unmanageable requirement on border crossing services and resulting in gridlock at crucial border crossings between the United States and Canada; and

**WHEREAS** the United States and Canada continue to pursue joint policies to facilitate the movement of people and the fair trade of goods and services across the border, including the 1995 Shared Border Accord and the Open Skies Agreement; and

**WHEREAS**, on October 8, 1999, the President of the United States and the Prime Minister of Canada agreed to create the Canada-U.S. Partnership Forum (CUSP) intended to help streamline border policies and management and increase efficiencies in customs, immigration, and law enforcement;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature calls on the United States Congress to amend the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 to exempt from the requirements of sec. 110 of that Act Canadian citizens who enter at land border crossing stations along the border between the United States and Canada; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature requests the United States Congress to provide additional resources to adequately facilitate the free flow of people and the fair trade of goods and services across the border between the United States and Canada; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests the President of the United States to make this issue an administrative priority and to urge the United States Congress to exempt from sec. 110 of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 Canadian citizens who enter at land border crossing stations along the border between the United States and Canada; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature encourages all state legislatures to pass resolutions urging the President of the United States, the leadership of the United States Congress, and the state's congressional members to exempt from sec. 110 of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 Canadian citizens who

enter at land border crossing stations along the border between the United States and Canada.

**COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Bill Clinton, President of the United States; the Honorable Al Gore, Jr., Vice-President of the United States and President of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Trent Lott, Majority Leader of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives; to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress; and to the legislatures of each of the states.