

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 11

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVES KOPP, Saddler, Story, Dibert, Fields, Holland, Gray, Eischeid, Burke, Hall, Bynum, Mina, Schwanke, Hannan, Josephson, Himschoot, Galvin, Stutes, Schrage

Introduced: 2/26/25

Referred: Resources

A RESOLUTION

1 **Recognizing and honoring the relationship between Canada and Alaska.**

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

3 **WHEREAS** both Canada and Alaska are blessed with extraordinary natural
4 environments, valuable natural resources, and shared cultures that stretch back millennia; and

5 **WHEREAS** Canada and Alaska have worked together to create jobs through
6 integrated economies, to protect our shared environment, airspace, and border, and to defend
7 North America from threats; and

8 **WHEREAS** the citizens of Canada and the citizens of Alaska have developed deep
9 friendships, family ties, and collaborative relationships over the course of history; and

10 **WHEREAS** the United States and Canada have developed one of the most successful
11 international relationships in the modern world, sharing a vibrant history of democratic
12 governance, military and economic partnerships, and cultural ties; and

13 **WHEREAS** the United States and Canada have been close allies, serving on
14 battlefields alongside one another in World War I, World War II, the Korean War, the
15 Vietnam War, the Gulf War, the Kosovo War, and the War on Terror, including the Global
16 Coalition against Daesh; and

1 **WHEREAS** the United States and Canada have been partners in the Permanent Joint
2 Board on Defense since 1940, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization since 1949, and the
3 North American Aerospace Defense Command since 1958, with Alaska's North American
4 Aerospace Defense Command region proudly commanded out of Joint Base Elmendorf-
5 Richardson by an American Commander and a Canadian Deputy Commander; and

6 **WHEREAS** Canada has provided aid to the United States in times of need, including
7 the Iran hostage crisis, the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center,
8 Hurricane Katrina, wildfires in Alaska and across the United States, and other disasters; and

9 **WHEREAS** the United States and Canada share the world's longest border at 5,511
10 miles, 1,538 miles of which are along Alaska's eastern frontier with the Yukon Territory and
11 the Province of British Columbia; and

12 **WHEREAS** Canada and Alaska strive to advance the goal of sustaining healthy and
13 resilient Arctic and northern peoples and communities by strengthening economic, cultural,
14 and family connections across the region; and

15 **WHEREAS** both Canada and the United States benefit from the efficient and secure
16 movement of people and goods between countries, including as partners in vibrant regional
17 cruise industries, fishing industries, resource extraction industries, agricultural industries,
18 energy industries, and medical industries; and

19 **WHEREAS** the United States is Canada's premier partner in the Arctic, and
20 cooperation between Canada and Alaska is longstanding, including on economic
21 opportunities, health, education, energy, security, environmental protection, infrastructure,
22 and public safety issues; and

23 **WHEREAS** Alaska annually exports \$596,000,000 in goods to Canada, including
24 \$438,000,000 in ore and fuel oil; and

25 **WHEREAS** Alaska annually imports \$753,000,000 from Canada, including
26 \$370,000,000 in ore and fuel oil; and

27 **WHEREAS** the United States and Canada have the largest and most comprehensive
28 and balanced trade relationship in the world, totaling \$1,000,000,000,000 annually,
29 representing 13.3 percent of total United States trade, with \$2,500,000,000 worth of goods
30 and services crossing the United States and Canada border every day; and

31 **WHEREAS** the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement negotiated by President

1 Donald J. Trump in 2018 provides the framework for much of this bilateral trade, has
2 provided important updates to the North American Free Trade Agreement, and continues to
3 grow both economies; and

4 **WHEREAS** more than 20,300 jobs in Alaska rely on trade and investment with
5 Canada, and more than 47 Canadian-owned companies operate in Alaska and employ 4,350
6 residents throughout the state; and

7 **WHEREAS** Canada and Alaska share diverse transportation links by road and by sea,
8 including the Alaska-Canada Highway, constructed during World War II to benefit our shared
9 defense, the Alaska Marine Highway system, which runs from Bellingham, Washington to
10 Alaska through Canadian water and has a terminal at Prince Rupert, and the uniquely
11 interdependent communities of Stewart, British Columbia, and Hyder, Alaska; and

12 **WHEREAS** the imposition of recent proposed tariffs could threaten this unique,
13 mutually beneficial relationship and could harm the economies of both Alaska and Canada,
14 jeopardizing jobs, businesses, and longstanding partnerships;

15 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature recognizes the vibrancy and
16 importance of the Alaska-Canada relationship as the world increasingly recognizes the
17 strategic, economic, environmental, and cultural importance of the Arctic; and be it

18 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature believes that Canada and
19 Alaska must continue to work together to make our citizens' lives better, safer, more
20 prosperous, and more affordable; and be it

21 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature recognizes the economic
22 and trade relationships between our nation and Canada and Alaska and Canada; and be it

23 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature opposes restrictive trade
24 measures that would harm the unique relationship between Canada and Alaska or negatively
25 affect our integrated economies; and be it

26 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature honors Alaska's alliance
27 with Canada and looks forward to many more years of cooperation, friendship, trade, tourism,
28 cultural exchange, and good will.

29 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Donald J. Trump, President
30 of the United States; the Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada; the
31 Honourable Mélanie Joly, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Canada; the Honourable Mary Ng,

1 Minister of Export Promotion, International Trade and Economic Development, of Canada;
2 the Honourable Bill Blair, Minister of National Defence of Canada; the Honorable Marco
3 Rubio, United States Secretary of State; the Honorable Pete Hegseth, United States Secretary
4 of Defense; General Gregory M. Guillot, Commander, North American Aerospace Defense
5 Command and United States Northern Command; Lieutenant General Blaise F. Frawley,
6 Deputy Commander, North American Aerospace Defense Command; Craig Weichel, Consul
7 General of Canada in Seattle, Washington; and the Honorable Lisa Murkowski and the
8 Honorable Dan Sullivan, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Nicholas Begich, U.S.
9 Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.