

**STATE OF ALASKA  
THE LEGISLATURE**

**2025**

**Source**

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**Legislative  
Resolve No.**

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Recognizing and honoring the relationship between Canada and Alaska.

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

**WHEREAS** Canada and the United States share the world's longest international border, spanning 5,511 miles, with Alaska and Canada sharing 1,538 miles of that border, which serves as a vital corridor for trade, travel, and cross-border cooperation; and

**WHEREAS** Canada is Alaska's only neighbor, reinforcing a unique and deeply interconnected relationship built on geography, history, and mutual economic and cultural ties; and

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

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

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

**WHEREAS** Alaska and Canada have long supported international sporting and

cultural exchanges, which promote youth development, athletic excellence, and cross-cultural understanding between the northern communities of the United States and Canada; and

**WHEREAS** the longstanding participation of Canadian teams in the Fairbanks Curling Club's International Bonspiel, now in its 88th year, exemplifies the deep cultural ties and shared northern identity between Alaska and Canada, highlighting a mutual love of curling as both a beloved sport and a form of diplomacy that fosters goodwill, cross-border friendship, and enduring cooperation through spirited, respectful competition; and

**WHEREAS** the Gwich'in people, indigenous to Interior Alaska and northwestern Canada, have lived in the region for over 20,000 years, with vibrant communities in both the Fairbanks area and across the border in the Yukon and Northwest Territories, maintaining deep familial, cultural, and linguistic ties that continue to shape and enrich the cross-border relationship between Alaska and Canada; and

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

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

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

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

**WHEREAS** Alaska recognizes the importance of a strong and sovereign nation of Canada and firmly supports Canada's right to self-determination, national security, and economic independence; and

**WHEREAS** Canada and Alaska strive to advance the goal of sustaining healthy and

resilient Arctic and northern peoples and communities by strengthening economic, cultural, and family connections across the region and by recognizing the historical trade and relations of tribes on both sides of today's border; and

**WHEREAS** the vast, glaciated Taku, Stikine, Unuk, Salmon, and other transboundary rivers that flow from the boreal forest of British Columbia into Southeast Alaska have been centers of culture and commerce for thousands of years for people on both sides of the Alaska and Canada border, and the State of Alaska, the Province of British Columbia, the United States, Canada, Indigenous governments, and communities have the opportunity to work together to steward shared resources, while also ensuring commitments outlined in current agreements are upheld; and

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

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

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

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

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

**WHEREAS** the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement negotiated in 2018 provides the framework for much of this bilateral trade, has provided important updates to the North American Free Trade Agreement, and continues to grow both economies; and

**WHEREAS** more than 20,300 jobs in Alaska rely on trade and investment with Canada, and more than 47 Canadian-owned companies operate in Alaska and employ 4,350

residents throughout the state; and

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

**WHEREAS** the Alaska-Canada Highway and other vital road connections serve as critical lifelines for the movement of goods, people, and services between Alaska and the rest of the United States through Canadian territory, fostering economic stability and security for both regions; and

**WHEREAS** the Alaska State Legislature is deeply concerned by any threats or actions by Canada to shut down roads into Alaska, including the Alaska-Canada Highway, which would disrupt this essential connectivity and undermine the spirit of cooperation enshrined in our shared history and agreements; and

**WHEREAS** such actions could jeopardize funding commitments, including those for the repair and maintenance of the Shakwak road, a project vital to the safety and economic well-being of Alaskans and Canadians alike, as well as threaten the broader framework of Canada-Alaska agreements that support trade, infrastructure, and mutual prosperity; and

**WHEREAS** maintaining open and reliable transportation links is fundamental to honoring the economic, cultural, and strategic partnership between Alaska and Canada, as reinforced by the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement and decades of collaboration; and

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

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

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

**FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature recognizes the economic

and trade relationships between our nation and Canada and Alaska and Canada; and be it

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

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

**COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Donald J. Trump, President of the United States; the Right Honourable Mark Carney, Prime Minister of Canada; the Honourable Dominic LeBlanc, Minister of International Trade and Intergovernmental Affairs of Canada; the Honourable Mélanie Joly, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Canada; the Honourable Bill Blair, Minister of National Defence of Canada; the Honorable Marco Rubio, United States Secretary of State; the Honorable Pete Hegseth, United States Secretary of Defense; General Gregory M. Guillot, Commander, North American Aerospace Defense Command and United States Northern Command; Lieutenant General Blaise F. Frawley, Deputy Commander, North American Aerospace Defense Command; Craig Weichel, Consul General of Canada in Seattle, Washington; and the Honorable Lisa Murkowski and the Honorable Dan Sullivan, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Nicholas Begich, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.