

**No. R-367. Joint resolution strongly supporting continuing and enhancing the mutually beneficial bilateral economic and trade relationship between the state of Vermont and Canada.**

(J.R.H.24)

Offered by: All Members of the House

Whereas, the United States and Canada share a 5,500-mile border, the world's longest that is not militarized, and each nation's foundation is based upon common democratic ideals and principles, and

Whereas, the relationship between Canada and the United States is unique in the world, and the two countries have a shared prosperity fostered by two-way investment and jobs, and

Whereas, this special relationship has spanned more than two centuries, and the two countries have developed one of the most successful records of international cooperation in the modern world, including a large and comprehensive trade relationship, and

Whereas, statistics from 2010 detail the importance of the close ties of both the United States and Vermont with Canada, and

Whereas, over eight million American jobs were dependent on trade with Canada, including 19,300 in Vermont, and

Whereas, Vermont's largest export market, by far, was Canada, representing exports of \$1.3 billion, and

Whereas, Canadian tourists flocked to Vermont, making 723,600 visits and contributing \$146 million to the local economy, and

Whereas, militarily, Canada and the United States are both members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, and our nations' armed forces have fought alongside each other in most major conflicts since World War II, including the Korean War, the Gulf War, the Kosovo War, and, most recently, the war in Afghanistan, and

Whereas, American defense arrangements with Canada are more extensive than with any other country, and Canada was a major ally of the United States during the Cold War, and

Whereas, the North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD) was founded in May 1958 when the United States and Canada signed a formal agreement providing for bilateral aerospace warning and control of North American airspace, and the NORAD agreement's 2006 renewal added a maritime warning mission, and

Whereas, since September 11, 2001, the strong United States–Canada military relationship has helped to keep the United States safe from further terrorist attacks, and Canada is now, more than ever, a key military ally of our nation, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly recognizes and celebrates the strength of the Canada–Vermont relationship, and be it further

Resolved: That the General Assembly strongly supports the commitment of the state of Vermont to working together with Canada to enhance our mutually

beneficial bilateral economic and trade relationships and to ensure many more years of cooperation, friendship, and goodwill, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Consul General of Canada to New England, Patrick Binns, in Boston and the United States Consul General in Montreal, Andrew Parker.