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SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8021

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State of Washington

64th Legislature

2016 Regular Session

By Senator Chase

Read first time 01/26/16. Referred to Committee on Trade & Economic Development.

1 TO THE HONORABLE BARACK OBAMA, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,  
2 AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF  
3 REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF  
4 THE UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED:

5 We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of  
6 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled,  
7 respectfully represent and petition as follows:

8 WHEREAS, The 2015 Agreement on Land, Rail, Marine, and Air  
9 Transport Preclearance was signed by the United States and Canada as  
10 part of the Beyond the Border Action Plan and reaffirmed the United  
11 States and Canadian joint commitment to enhancing security while  
12 facilitating lawful travel and trade; and

13 WHEREAS, The preclearance agreement gives United States Customs  
14 and Border Protection and Canada Border Services Agency officials the  
15 authority to conduct border security and inspections in the other  
16 country prior to departure; and

17 WHEREAS, Making cross-border transit more efficient for business  
18 travel, tour operators, and independent leisure travelers, when the  
19 preclearance agreement is implemented, will greatly enhance  
20 competitiveness of the Pacific Northwest's \$55 billion regional  
21 travel and tourism sector; and

22 WHEREAS, As business and leisure travel itineraries become  
23 increasingly multimodal and demand for two nation vacations grows in

1 the Pacific Rim market, efficient execution of preclearance will be a  
2 positive signal to the investment and business climate in Washington  
3 state and British Columbia;

4 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that Congress  
5 expedite a bill to give the United States extraterritorial  
6 jurisdiction over preclearance officers in Canada in order to  
7 implement the 2015 Agreement on Land, Rail, Marine, and Air Transport  
8 Preclearance.

9 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately  
10 transmitted to the Honorable Barack Obama, President of the United  
11 States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the  
12 House of Representatives, and each member of Congress from the State  
13 of Washington.

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