
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 4005

State of Washington

56th Legislature

1999 Regular Session

By House Committee on Agriculture & Ecology (originally sponsored by Representatives Schoesler, Grant, G. Chandler, Sump, Mastin, Lisk, Linville, Tokuda, Doumit, Delvin, Radcliff, Dunn and Mulliken)

Read first time 02/23/1999.

1 TO THE HONORABLE WILLIAM J. CLINTON, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED
2 STATES, AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE
3 OF REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
4 THE UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, AND TO THE SECRETARY OF THE
5 UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE:

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

9 WHEREAS, Unilateral trade sanctions on agricultural exports have
10 placed a heavy burden on American farmers and the American economy; and

11 WHEREAS, United States unilateral trade sanctions on agricultural
12 exports deprive American wheat-growing families of access to eleven
13 percent of the world grain trade; and

14 WHEREAS, Direct economic losses for wheat producers have ranged
15 from three hundred million dollars to over five hundred million dollars
16 annually for the past three years; and

17 WHEREAS, The losses are not merely confined to wheat, in that
18 growers of peas, lentils, barley, and many other crops have been
19 affected as well; and

20 WHEREAS, Unilateral sanctions on agricultural exports impose a
21 severe penalty upon United States agriculture and upon the consuming

1 public of the sanctioned country, while providing market protection for
2 our competitors; and

3 WHEREAS, Unilateral sanctions that limit commercial, government-
4 assisted, or humanitarian movement of agricultural products have proven
5 to be ineffective mechanisms to further United States foreign policy
6 goals; and

7 WHEREAS, Farmers across America were grateful for the swift passage
8 of emergency federal legislation granting a one-year waiver of
9 sanctions against two major trading partners, Pakistan and India, for
10 credit sales of agricultural commodities, products, medicine, and
11 medical equipment; and

12 WHEREAS, That emergency legislation prevented the financial
13 calamity we face from becoming worse yet, greater long-term steps must
14 be taken if America's farm families are to survive.

15 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that all
16 current unilateral sanctions pertaining to agricultural exports be
17 eliminated, except in cases of compelling national emergency or
18 declaration of war; and that legislation be approved to implement a
19 producer and worker-compensation program based on the negative impact
20 of sanctions on the sale of agricultural products.

21 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately
22 transmitted to the Honorable William J. Clinton, President of the
23 United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker
24 of the House of Representatives, and each member of Congress from the
25 State of Washington, and the Secretary of the United States Department
26 of Agriculture.

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