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SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8018

State of Washington 64th Legislature 2016 Regular Session

By Senators Chase, Roach, Ranker, Conway, and Honeyford

Read first time 01/21/16. Referred to Committee on Trade & Economic Development.

TO THE HONORABLE BARACK OBAMA, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,
AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF

REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF

THE UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED:

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

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

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

WHEREAS, Making cross-border transit more efficient for business travel, tour operators, and independent leisure travelers, when the preclearance agreement is implemented, will greatly enhance competitiveness of the Pacific Northwest's fifty-five billion dollar regional 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

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the pacific rim market, efficient execution of preclearance will be a positive signal to the investment and business climate in Washington state and British Columbia;

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

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

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