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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 4018

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State of Washington

58th Legislature

2003 Regular Session

By Representatives Blake, Veloria and Kenney

Read first time 02/17/2003. Referred to Committee on Trade & Economic Development.

1 TO THE HONORABLE GEORGE W. BUSH, 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 THE  
4 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, respectfully  
7 represent and petition as follows:

8 WHEREAS, Washington's apple industry produces a high quality  
9 product; and

10 WHEREAS, Washington's apple industry is facing difficult economic  
11 times; and

12 WHEREAS, The same food quality standards that apply to food  
13 exported from the United States do not apply to the same food imported  
14 into the United States; and

15 WHEREAS, The apples exported from the United States are subjected  
16 to higher tariffs than the apples imported into the United States, such  
17 as the forty-six percent tariff levied on Washington apples exported to  
18 Mexico; and

19 WHEREAS, The domestic safety and health requirements, including the

1 requirements to provide safe drinking water and a safe work  
2 environment, are not required for the workers abroad;

3 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that fairer  
4 trade agreements be developed to create a level playing field for our  
5 domestic farmers and orchardists.

6 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately  
7 transmitted to the Honorable George W. Bush, President of the United  
8 States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the  
9 House of Representatives, and each member of Congress from the State of  
10 Washington.

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