

SENATE RESOLUTION

8641

By Senators Shewmake, Short, Slatter, Wagoner, Chapman, Boehnke, Cortes, Goehner, Lovelett, Lovick, MacEwen, Orwall, Salomon, Stanford, Trudeau, Valdez, Warnick, C. Wilson, Fortunato, and Kauffman

1           WHEREAS, Since the foundation of our state, we have shared strong  
2 economic, political, and cultural ties to our Canadian neighbors in  
3 British Columbia; and

4           WHEREAS, Throughout our history, we've traveled to visit our  
5 family members, friends, and colleagues living across our northern  
6 border, while they have visited us in return; and

7           WHEREAS, The United States and Canada share the longest peaceful  
8 border in history with 166 years of peace along 5,525 miles of  
9 border; and

10           WHEREAS, With honor, respect, and acknowledgment, Canada and the  
11 United States share a deep and enduring connection with the First  
12 Nations and Tribes—the first peoples of both nations—who have upheld  
13 agreements with federal governments in recognition of their  
14 sovereignty and inherent rights; whose bloodlines, culture, and  
15 traditional laws have sustained these lands since time immemorial;  
16 and who continue to be essential partners and leaders in economic  
17 sustainability within their respective countries and across borders;  
18 and

19           WHEREAS, Residents of Point Roberts, Washington, a pene-exclave  
20 community, must cross the United States-Canadian border twice to get  
21 to school, the doctor's office, and other services, relying heavily  
22 on smooth border operations; and

1           WHEREAS, British Columbians and Washingtonians have served  
2 their countries valiantly together in two world wars and many  
3 other conflicts; and

4           WHEREAS, The abundant natural resources and uniquely  
5 beautiful landscapes of the Pacific Northwest are core to the  
6 identities of those living in this region, regardless of  
7 national origin; and

8           WHEREAS, We enjoy the shared economic prosperity from  
9 integrated supply chains and thriving maritime, tech,  
10 manufacturing, farming, and forestry industries that span across  
11 political borders; and

12           WHEREAS, Washington and British Columbia are permanently  
13 linked by the Salish Sea, whose waters are unconstrained by  
14 national borders; and

15           WHEREAS, The collaboration and flow of ideas between  
16 Washington State and British Columbia is essential for our  
17 efforts toward marine habitat restoration, natural disaster  
18 mitigation, advancing clean technologies, and exploring  
19 solutions to regional challenges; and

20           WHEREAS, The nearly eight billion dollars brought in from  
21 exports to Canada every year contributes to our resilient  
22 economy, and in turn our consumers benefit from the products we  
23 import from the north; and

24           WHEREAS, Washingtonians rely on the electrical power shared  
25 over our northern border, as well as the oil refined here in  
26 Washington and imported from British Columbia; and

27           WHEREAS, Border communities particularly benefit from the  
28 Canadian tourists visiting our state to visit our restaurants,  
29 entertainment, grocery, and retail stores; and

30           WHEREAS, Peace Arch Park in Blaine, which describes our two  
31 nations as "children of a common mother," provided a place for  
32 loved ones separated by the border closure during the Covid-19  
33 pandemic to reunite and visit their friends and family; and

34           WHEREAS, Our Canadian neighbors provide aid to our country  
35 in times of crisis, lending supplies and volunteers during the  
36 Nooksack floods, sending water bombers to combat wildfires, and  
37 allowing stranded passengers and planes to take refuge on  
38 September 11, 2001;

1           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State  
2 of Washington recognize the immeasurable value of our  
3 interconnected relationship with Canada and its profound impact  
4 on the people of Washington State.

5 I, Sarah Bannister, Secretary of the Senate,  
6 do hereby certify that this is a true and  
7 correct copy of Senate Resolution 8641,  
8 adopted by the Senate  
9 April 11, 2025

10 SARAH BANNISTER  
11 Secretary of the Senate