

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 563

Whereas, Missouri and the United Kingdom have long been trade partners and trade nearly two billion dollars in goods and services annually; and

Whereas, over fifty United Kingdom companies are currently invested in Missouri, and over twenty-five Missouri companies are currently invested in the United Kingdom; and

Whereas, Missouri and the United Kingdom have many historical connections, including:

(1) One million Missourians who can trace their ancestry to the British Isles;

(2) America's National Churchill Museum in Fulton, Missouri, which is located at the site of Sir Winston Churchill's famous 1946 Iron Curtain speech and is housed beneath a chapel built by Sir Christopher Wren that was relocated from London; and

(3) The first state-level Friends of the United Kingdom caucus in the United States; and

Whereas, a free trade agreement would create employment opportunities for Missouri residents as a direct result of removing and reducing barriers to trade and to free markets and would increase Missouri exports to the United Kingdom; and

Whereas, Missouri would benefit greatly from the ratification of a comprehensive free trade agreement, especially in the shared industries of manufacturing, agriculture, health innovation, and next-generation energy sources; and

Whereas, trade and investment between Missouri and the United Kingdom would be mutually beneficial, especially in

the areas of AgTech and agriculture, license reciprocity, apprenticeships, energy innovation, medical research, and geospatial analysis; and

Whereas, the United States Constitution grants the United States Congress exclusive authority to regulate commerce with foreign nations; and

Whereas, the negotiation of a successful free trade agreement between the United States and the United Kingdom will require bipartisan cooperation between state, federal, and foreign governments; and

Whereas, increasing global trade, especially with the United Kingdom, is of vital importance to the growth of the United States' economy, to small business participation in the international marketplace, and to job creation:

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that we, the members of the Missouri Senate, One Hundred First General Assembly, Second Regular Session, hereby urge:

(1) The United States Congress to grant trade promotion authority to the executive branch;

(2) The executive branch of the United States to complete a timely and successful negotiation of a comprehensive and mutually beneficial free trade agreement between the United States and the United Kingdom; and

(3) The United States Congress to ratify such agreement; and

Be It Further Resolved that the Secretary of the Missouri Senate be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for President Joe Biden, Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, each member of Missouri's congressional delegation, and Governor Mike Parson.