

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 74

Senators Chang, Zorn, Santana and Bayer offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to call for international maritime containers to
2 be treated equally in Michigan compared to other states.

3 Whereas, Manufacturing and agriculture are major industries in
4 Michigan. The food and agriculture industry contributes more than
5 \$100 billion to the state economy annually. Manufacturing accounts
6 for nearly 20 percent of the state's annual total output; and

7 Whereas, The manufacturing and agriculture industries rely on
8 the efficient movement, including by water, of inputs and finished
9 commodities to remain competitive. Maritime transportation plays an
10 important role in providing low-cost and efficient means of moving
11 Michigan products overseas, with international maritime containers
12 being the most ubiquitous method of moving products; and

1 Whereas, Michigan's location near the Great Lakes and Saint
2 Lawrence Seaway System contributes to the state's strong
3 manufacturing and agriculture base. With 3,000 miles of shoreline
4 and the most commercial port terminals in the Great Lakes region,
5 Michigan can and should lead the region in international maritime
6 trade; and

7 Whereas, Since 2016, the U.S. Customs and Border Protection
8 (CBP) has restricted all international maritime containers entering
9 Michigan. Clearance requirements have been implemented on Michigan
10 ports that are not in place anywhere else in the United States; and

11 Whereas, The CBP restrictions have economically disadvantaged
12 Michigan and hurt infrastructure and the environment. Cargo that
13 cannot be unloaded in Michigan is taken to nearby ports, leading to
14 high fees for businesses and creating hundreds of jobs in other
15 states. In addition, Michigan's environment and roads are harmed
16 when international containers are moved to and from the state by
17 truck, instead of by ship; now, therefore, be it

18 Resolved by the Senate, That we call on Michigan officials to
19 ensure Michigan manufacturing, agriculture, and ports are treated
20 equally to other states and be allowed to import and export
21 international maritime containers; and be it further

22 Resolved, That we urge the United States Customs and Border
23 Protection to stop the restriction on cargo in Michigan; and be it
24 further

25 Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the
26 Commissioner of United States Customs and Border Protection, the
27 Director of the Michigan Department of Transportation, and the
28 members of the Michigan congressional delegation.