

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 74

Senators Chang and Zorn 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

13 Whereas, Michigan's location near the Great Lakes and Saint

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

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

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

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

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

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