

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 494 Session of
2003

INTRODUCED BY TRAVAGLIO, BIANCUCCI, CALTAGIRONE, CASORIO, COHEN, CORRIGAN, COSTA, COY, DeLUCA, DERMODY, DeWEESE, DIVEN, EACHUS, FABRIZIO, FREEMAN, GRUCELA, HALUSKA, KOTIK, LAUGHLIN, LEACH, LESCOVITZ, MANN, MARKOSEK, MELIO, PALLONE, PETRARCA, PETRONE, READSHAW, ROBERTS, SAINATO, SANTONI, SHANER, SOLOBAY, STABACK, SURRA, TANGRETTI, VEON, WALKO, WHEATLEY AND WOJNAROSKI, NOVEMBER 19, 2003

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, NOVEMBER 19, 2003

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 Urging the President of the United States to continue the
2 imposition of the Section 201 steel tariffs for their
3 scheduled three-year duration despite the World Trade
4 Organization's ruling on November 10, 2003.

5 WHEREAS, The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is the birthplace
6 of the American steel industry and home to the country's largest
7 steel producer, United States Steel Corporation, and to the
8 United Steelworkers of America; and

9 WHEREAS, The Senate and the House of Representatives of the
10 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania adopted House Resolution No. 348 on
11 September 16, 2003, and October 1, 2003, respectively, urging
12 the President of the United States to maintain the Section 201
13 steel tariffs for the three-year duration and to provide all
14 available assistance to ease the hardship which has resulted for
15 thousands of retired steelworkers as a result of bankruptcies
16 and restructuring; and

1 WHEREAS, The domestic steel industry and the United
2 Steelworkers of America have worked cooperatively and have made
3 difficult decisions to ensure that the steel industry's
4 restructuring occurs in order to advance a globally competitive
5 United States steel industry; and

6 WHEREAS, On March 5, 2002, the President of the United States
7 imposed steel tariffs (Section 201 steel tariffs) which have
8 been vitally important to allow for the restructuring of the
9 steel industry; and

10 WHEREAS, The President's decision to impose steel tariffs has
11 enabled the United States steel industry to invest in excess of
12 \$3 billion to consolidate, restructure and improve its
13 productivity and global competitiveness; and

14 WHEREAS, Since the imposition of the Section 201 steel
15 tariffs, imports and domestic production of steel have
16 increased; and

17 WHEREAS, Steel is essential to the manufacturing and
18 infrastructure sectors, the mainstays of every advanced economy,
19 and no major industrialized nation has been able to function
20 without the ability to produce steel; and

21 WHEREAS, The overall competitiveness of the United States
22 manufacturing industries in the global marketplace relies on the
23 ability to maintain a steady domestic steel supply; and

24 WHEREAS, The Section 201 steel tariffs have provided relief
25 for the domestic steel industry; and

26 WHEREAS, Due to the tariffs, the steel industry is beginning
27 to recover, the industry has begun significant restructuring to
28 adjust the current import competition situation, and continued
29 relief for the full three-year term is necessary so that the
30 industry can continue to make vital capital investments it was

1 forced to postpone due to the import crisis; and

2 WHEREAS, On November 10, 2003, the World Trade Organization
3 Appellate Body ruled that the Section 201 steel tariffs on
4 imported steel are illegal; and

5 WHEREAS, Within the next several weeks, the World Trade
6 Organization must officially approve the appellate body's
7 ruling; and

8 WHEREAS, The European Union has threatened the United States
9 with the imposition of \$2.2 billion of sanctions on United
10 States imports if the United States does not immediately repeal
11 the Section 201 steel tariffs; and

12 WHEREAS, Japan, South Korea, Norway, Switzerland, China, New
13 Zealand and Brazil have joined Europe in welcoming the World
14 Trade Organization's ruling; and

15 WHEREAS, The Section 201 steel tariffs have provided the
16 Presidential Administration with the leverage to negotiate a
17 resolution to the underlying structural problems of massive
18 global excess steel capacity and foreign government subsidies
19 which caused the import surge that prompted the President to
20 impose the steel safeguard; and

21 WHEREAS, Maintaining the Section 201 steel tariffs even under
22 the threat of retaliatory sanctions from the European Union and
23 other steel-producing countries will help restore market forces
24 and level the playing field in the global steel sector;
25 therefore be it

26 RESOLVED (the Senate concurring), That the General Assembly
27 of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania reaffirm its strong
28 commitment and support of the President's decision to impose
29 steel tariffs in order to give our domestic steel manufacturers
30 the opportunity to improve their productivity and global

1 competitiveness; and be it further

2 RESOLVED, That the President of the United States be urged to
3 maintain the Section 201 steel tariffs for the three-year
4 duration despite the World Trade Organization Appellate Body's
5 ruling on November 10, 2003; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to
7 the President of the United States, to the Vice President of the
8 United States, to the members of Congress and to the Governor of
9 the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.