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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 64

Session of  
2005

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INTRODUCED BY CLYMER, ARMSTRONG, BASTIAN, BEBKO-JONES,  
BIANCUCCI, CALTAGIRONE, CAWLEY, CORRIGAN, CRAHALLA, CRUZ,  
DeWEESE, DiGIROLAMO, FABRIZIO, FAIRCHILD, FREEMAN, GERGELY,  
GRUCELA, HARHART, HERSHEY, W. KELLER, KIRKLAND, KOTIK,  
LEDERER, LEH, LEVDANSKY, McGEEHAN, MELIO, MUNDY, O'NEILL,  
PALLONE, READSHAW, ROHRER, SATHER, SCAVELLO, SHANER, STERN,  
THOMAS, TIGUE, WHEATLEY, WOJNAROSKI, GOODMAN, ARGALL, JAMES  
AND WILT, FEBRUARY 9, 2005

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, FEBRUARY 9, 2005

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A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Congress of the United States to place a moratorium  
2 on new free trade agreements, to investigate and review  
3 current free trade agreements and policies of the United  
4 States, to investigate and review participation of the United  
5 States with international trade organizations and to ensure  
6 that such agreements, policies and participation are in the  
7 best interests of the citizens of the Commonwealth of  
8 Pennsylvania and the United States.

9 WHEREAS, Since 1990 the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has lost  
10 228,300 manufacturing jobs, half of them between 2001 and 2003;  
11 and

12 WHEREAS, Manufacturing has a spin-off effect of three to  
13 seven jobs created for each manufacturing job; and

14 WHEREAS, Free trade agreements and policies of the United  
15 States with other nations have severely impacted American  
16 manufacturing industries and the workers they employ; and

17 WHEREAS, Participation by the United States in international

1 trade organizations may imperil the success of American  
2 manufacturing; and

3 WHEREAS, Foreign nations, such as China, have engaged in a  
4 wide range of unfair trading practices, including the  
5 manipulation of currency, subsidizing industries and dumping  
6 below-cost subsidized products into the United States market;  
7 and

8 WHEREAS, United States manufacturers cannot compete with  
9 foreign companies who pay a small fraction of the salaries paid  
10 to United States manufacturing employees, provide no health  
11 benefits to their workers, do not have to comply with any  
12 governmental requirements for the safety of their employees or  
13 for the protection of the environment, pay no pensions and are  
14 government subsidized; and

15 WHEREAS, The citizens of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania are  
16 being harmfully impacted by trade agreements and policies  
17 between the United States and foreign nations, resulting in the  
18 closing of many of our manufacturing industries, negatively  
19 impacting our families, our communities and the Commonwealth at  
20 large when thousands of workers lose their jobs; therefore be it

21 RESOLVED (the Senate concurring), That the General Assembly  
22 of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania urge the Congress of the  
23 United States to place a moratorium on all new trade agreements,  
24 to investigate and review all current free trade agreements and  
25 policies of the United States, to investigate and review  
26 participation of the United States in international trade  
27 organizations, and to ensure that such agreements, policies and  
28 participation are in the best interests of the citizens of the  
29 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the United States; and be it  
30 further

1       RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to  
2 the President and Congress of the United States, to the  
3 presiding officers of each house of Congress and to each member  
4 of Congress from Pennsylvania.