

By Senator Rodriguez

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Senate Memorial

A memorial to the Congress of the United States,  
urging Congress to support solutions that examine the  
pollution differential between United States  
production and that of other countries and that hold  
foreign polluters accountable for their pollution.

WHEREAS, Florida's natural resources and environment are  
essential to the state's character, economy, and way of life,  
and

WHEREAS, Florida, under Governor Ron DeSantis' leadership,  
has recently delivered investments to protect the state's  
natural resources and environment, including Everglades  
restoration, waterway rehabilitation, and water quality  
infrastructure, and

WHEREAS, China, by far the world's largest polluter,  
accounts for over 30 percent of global carbon dioxide emissions  
and subsidizes its exports by not imposing or enforcing  
reasonable environmental and labor standards, and

WHEREAS, Chinese government-owned industry is an arm of the  
Chinese Communist Party and strives to increase its influence  
over the global economy by pursuing predatory trade practices  
such as stealing intellectual property from the United States,  
and

WHEREAS, the United States has reduced more carbon  
emissions than any other country in the last 15 years and has an  
economy that is 44 percent more carbon efficient than the world  
average, and

WHEREAS, manufacturers in the United States are more

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30 efficient in nearly every industry and yet are forced to compete  
31 with companies in China and other countries that face few limits  
32 on how much they pollute, and

33 WHEREAS, goods produced in China and Russia generate 300  
34 percent and 400 percent on average, respectively, more in carbon  
35 emissions compared to equivalent goods produced in the United  
36 States, and

37 WHEREAS, United States trade policy has not taken into  
38 account carbon emissions, and as a result, afforded foreign  
39 polluters with loose carbon standards an advantage over the  
40 United States for the past several decades, and

41 WHEREAS, China benefits from the current federal trade  
42 policy, and

43 WHEREAS, rewarding United States firms for their  
44 environmental performance would bolster domestic manufacturing,  
45 generate good-paying jobs, and reduce dependence on imports from  
46 high-emitting producers like China and Russia, NOW, THEREFORE,

47  
48 Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

49  
50 That the Congress of the United States is urged to support  
51 solutions that examine the pollution differential between United  
52 States production and that of other countries and that hold  
53 foreign polluters accountable for their pollution.

54 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of State dispatch  
55 copies of this memorial to the President of the United States,  
56 to the President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of  
57 the United States House of Representatives, and to each member  
58 of the Florida delegation to the United States Congress.