



National Lieutenant Governors Association

1 **The Role of the State and Federal Governments for Success in the Global Economy**
2 **Resolution Regarding Trade and International Investment**

3 **WHEREAS**, the United States (U.S.) is the world’s largest economy, and

4 **WHEREAS**, the U.S. is the world’s largest importer and exporter of goods and services, according to
5 the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR), and

6 **WHEREAS**, trade is critical to America’s prosperity – fueling economic growth, supporting good jobs
7 at home, raising living standards, and helping Americans provide for their families with affordable goods
8 and services, and

9 **WHEREAS**, in 2019, the total U.S. trade with foreign countries was \$5.6 trillion. That was \$2.5 trillion
10 in exports and \$3.1 trillion in imports of both goods and services, according to the U.S. Census Bureau,
11 and

12 **WHEREAS**, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce says half of all U.S. manufacturing jobs depend on
13 exports, one in three acres on American farms is planted for international sales, and 49 out of every 50
14 U.S. companies that ship to other countries are small businesses (2020), and

15 **WHEREAS**, the State International Development Organization (SIDO) says firms that export pay 15-20
16 percent higher wages on average than their non-exporting competitors (2020), and

17 **WHEREAS**, trade and international investment will be essential to U.S. and world economic recovery
18 following the global pandemic of COVID-19, and

19 **WHEREAS**, states and territories and the federal government have a role in trade, in attracting
20 international investment, and in export promotion, and

21 **WHEREAS**, the USTR has authority to negotiate international trade agreements on behalf of the United
22 States, and those negotiations can have a major impact on the states and territories, and on American
23 businesses, employers, employees and consumers, and

24 **WHEREAS**, states and territories play a key role in assisting businesses in exporting their products and
25 services; in attracting investment into their respective states and territories; and in gathering and
26 communicating trade policy concerns on behalf of their businesses, workers, and residents to the federal
27 government.



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28 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the National Lieutenant Governors Association asks
29 the federal government to collaborate regularly and meaningfully with states and territories to promote
30 U.S. exports, attract foreign investments, and negotiate or renegotiate international trade agreements.

31 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the NLGA encourages the federal government to craft trade
32 policy which protects state and territorial legislative, judicial, and regulatory authority and to collaborate
33 with states and territories on trade policy that may impact state or territorial practice or policy on
34 procurement, investment and services.

35 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the NLGA supports international trade agreements which create
36 open, transparent, and fair global markets while ensuring the trading partners of the U.S. adhere to the
37 terms of the agreements.

38 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that NLGA supports federal legislation that promotes collaboration
39 between the states and the federal government on trade policy.

ADOPTED, this day, the 25th of March, 2021.

Sponsors: Lt. Governor Adam Gregg (R – Iowa), Lt. Governor Kate Marshall (D – Nevada), Lt. Governor Dianne Primavera (D – Colorado)