

ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 64

Introduced by Scheer, 19.

WHEREAS, 2019 marks the 40th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the United States of America and the People's Republic of China. As one of the most important bilateral relationships in the world, the U.S.-China relationship has produced benefits to the people in both countries and the world; and

WHEREAS, The annual trade volume between the U.S. and China has remained above \$500 billion in recent years, and reached \$633 billion in 2018, a figure 253 times the volume from 1979; and

WHEREAS, China was the third largest export market for U.S. goods and services in 2017, which supported 1 million U.S. jobs. States across the U.S. have seen significant increases in exports of goods and services to China in the past decade. With a population of nearly 1.4 billion people and a middle-income group of 400 million people, China is an important trading partner for the U.S. at present and in the future; and

WHEREAS, Over 14,000 Americans and Chinese fly across the Pacific Ocean every day for educational exchanges, business opportunities, and tourism, which has deepened people-to-people ties; and

WHEREAS, U.S.-China subnational exchanges and cooperation have flourished since 1979, with 50 pairs of sister-states-provinces and 227 pairs of sister-cities established. Subnational mechanisms such as the China-U.S. Governors' Forum, the China-U.S. Sub-national Legislatures Cooperation Forum, and the U.S.-China Sister-Cities Conference have provided effective channels for both sides to engage in practical cooperation; and

WHEREAS, Nebraska's exports to China reached \$480 million in 2017, and China has become Nebraska's fourth largest export market. Nebraska exports of

goods and services to China increased by 92% and 454% respectively from 2008 to 2017. Over half of the beef exported to China from the U.S. is from Nebraska. The relationship with China has been mutually beneficial with great potential for future development; and

WHEREAS, Nebraska has two pairs of sister-state-province relations with the Chinese provinces of Guizhou and Shaanxi, which were established in 2004 and 2016 respectively. The sister relations have promoted long-term, mutually beneficial friendships between the two sides and also between our state and China.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That Nebraska celebrates our vibrant sister-state relationships with the Guizhou and Shaanxi provinces in China.

2. That the Legislature acknowledges the rich trade relationship between Nebraska and China.

3. That copies of this resolution be sent to the United States Secretary of State, Michael Pompeo, and Minister Xu Xueyuan of the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Washington, D.C.