



# Senate Committee on Community, Economic and Recreational Development

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**Senate Resolution 347, Printer's No. 2018**

**Date: June 23, 2010**

**Sponsor: Senator Brubaker**

## Resolution Summary

Senate Resolution 347, Printer's No. 2018, recognizes the importance of international commerce in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania through various "whereas" provisions (among others) that indicated the following:

- International commerce is vital to the nation's economy (57 million American workers engage in international commerce or 40% of private sector).
- **{Added} Five and one-tenth percent of Pennsylvania's work force is employed by firms that engage in international commerce with 18% or 46,000 workers in the manufacturing sector.**
- Pennsylvania makes significant contributions in international markets as the 11<sup>th</sup> largest exporting state giving the average American family \$9,000 more a year in purchasing power.
- Exports contributed nearly 8% of the Commonwealth's gross national product in 2008 (nearly doubling since 2002).
- Pennsylvania is the 6<sup>th</sup> largest economy in the United States, 18<sup>th</sup> largest economy in the world and the fastest growing exporter (\$553 billion gross domestic product).
- The United States is the world's largest exporter with exports of \$1.8 trillion in 2008 and 96% of the world's consumers live outside of the United States.
- International commerce is vital to the agricultural and manufacturing industries, two of the most important facets of Pennsylvania's economy.
  - Pennsylvania exported \$1.9 billion in agriculture products (2008).
  - Pennsylvania exported \$34 billion in manufacturer goods (2008).
- Pennsylvania's leading export sectors are chemicals, machinery, primary metal manufacturing, transportation equipment and computer and electronic products.
- Pennsylvania lies within 500 miles of 40% of the United States population and 60% of Canada's population, making this Commonwealth ideal for international commerce.
- Pennsylvania has an extensive transportation network which makes it an attractive place for international commerce (e.g., highway system, railroad system and three major ports that provide access to the Atlantic Ocean, Great Lakes and Gulf of Mexico).
- The Port of Pittsburgh's three major waterways move more than 44 million tons of waterborne cargo each year, making it the second largest inland port in the United States.
- More than 3,000 ships load and offload at the Port of Philadelphia each year, making it the fourth largest port in the United States for the handling of imported goods.
- **{Added} The Port of Erie offers recreational, manufacturing, shipping and commercial operations, and more than 3,000,000 tons in bulk materials of aggregates, biofuels and project cargo pass through the port annually.**

## [A07921] (Earll) Amendment Summary

This amendment is primarily technical in nature (in that it involves minor language tweaks and relocates some of the text), and also adds some additional Pennsylvania specific information. **{See comments above marked "Added" and the corresponding underlined text that reflects the added Pennsylvania specific information}**