Resolution Supporting the Full Reopening of the United States-Canada Border to Fully Vaccinated Individuals

WHEREAS, the border between the United States and Canada has been closed to non-essential travel since March 18, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the United States and Canada have enjoyed the most prosperous relationship in the world, amounting to over a trillion dollars in trade and investment annually; and

WHEREAS, Canada is the second-largest source of foreign direct investment in the United States, employing roughly 500,000 Americans; and

WHEREAS, the United States and Canada are each other’s largest markets for agricultural trade, totaling $48 billion in two-way trade in 2019; and

WHEREAS, this relationship has been based on the efficient movement of people, goods and services, while working together to secure the border from threats; and

WHEREAS, the interpretation of what is considered essential travel has been a matter of discretion by individual border crossing agents, creating confusion; and

WHEREAS, the Government of Canada’s Expert Advisory Committee on COVID-19 and the United States Center for Disease Control advise that fully vaccinated people do not provide a threat of COVID-19 transmission; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Midwestern Legislative Conference does hereby request that the United States and Canadian federal governments fully reopen the border to all fully vaccinated individuals immediately, and be it further

RESOLVED, that this resolution be submitted to appropriate state, federal and provincial officials.