



# Midwestern Legislative Conference

THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS

## 77<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting

### of the Midwestern Legislative Conference of

### The Council of State Governments

July 9 – 12, 2023

## Resolution on Extending U.S.-Canada Border Crossing Hours

- WHEREAS,** there are 31 official U.S. ports of entry from the Canadian provinces of Manitoba, Ontario, and Saskatchewan into the U.S. states of Minnesota, Montana, and North Dakota; and
- WHEREAS,** since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, less than 23 percent of these are open 24 hours per day; and
- WHEREAS,** four of these close at 4 p.m. local time, 15 of these close at 5 p.m. local time, and two of these close at 6 p.m. local time; and
- WHEREAS,** these early closures greatly harm cross-border trade, tourism, agriculture production, social relationships, and the economies of border communities; and
- WHEREAS,** both the Government of the United States and the Government of Canada have ended their COVID-19 emergency declarations; and
- WHEREAS,** the Governors of North Dakota and Montana and the Premiers of Alberta, Manitoba, and Saskatchewan have requested President Joseph Biden and Prime Minister Justin Trudeau to restore the pre-pandemic hours of operation at the U.S.-Canada land border ports; now therefore be it
- RESOLVED,** recognizing the commercial and social practical realities of our cross-border relationships, that the Midwestern Legislative Conference request U.S. Customs and Border Protection immediately adopt the same hours of operation as the Canadian Border Services Agency at these land border ports of entry, or 7 p.m. local time, whichever is later; and be it further
- RESOLVED,** that this resolution be submitted to appropriate state, federal and provincial officials.

*Adopted this 12<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2023 at the 77<sup>th</sup> MLC Annual Meeting in Detroit, Michigan*