

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 50

WHEREAS, Spartan Light Metal Products has been an industry leader in magnesium custom die castings for the past 4 decades with the company being owned and operated as a family business since 1961 and employing over 600 people; and

WHEREAS, Spartan Light Metal Products provides die cast products from magnesium alloys that reduce weight and improve performance of products at competitive costs; and

WHEREAS, magnesium die castings, such as Spartan Light Metal Products, are being greatly harmed by the tariffs (731-TA-1071 and 731-TA-1072) that have been placed on imported magnesium alloys by the United States International Trade Commission; these tariffs allow the nation's lone magnesium producer to set whatever price it chooses for raw magnesium, driving many die cast companies out of business; and

WHEREAS, the tariffs have created an advantage for foreign competitors, who can purchase magnesium at globally-competitive prices and export finished products to U.S. markets free of penalties; and this practice replaces U.S. manufacturing jobs and could lead to bankruptcy for the industry; and

WHEREAS, the tariffs have also placed U.S. car manufacturers at a cost and weight disadvantage against foreign carmakers in meeting Corporate Average Fuel Economy requirements; and as a result, about 60% of Spartan Light Metal Products' magnesium business for 2011 is disappearing at a time when the demand for magnesium products is growing:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the members of the Missouri Senate, Ninety-fifth General Assembly, Second Regular Session, the House of Representatives concurring therein, hereby urge the United States President and Congress to find a creative solution to protect the nation's lone magnesium producer without destroying the United States magnesium die casting industry; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members further urge the United States President and Congress to lift U.S. tariffs 731-TA-1071 and 731-TA-1072 on die cast magnesium alloys from China and Russia or create a fair market by placing a similar tariff on imported assemblies and products made from die cast magnesium alloys; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Missouri Senate be instructed to prepare properly inscribed copies of this resolution for the President of the United States and the members of the Missouri congressional delegation.

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