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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R.

To prohibit Federal interference with the opening and operation of the Gordie Howe International Bridge.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mrs. DINGELL introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To prohibit Federal interference with the opening and operation of the Gordie Howe International Bridge.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

4 This Act may be cited as the “Michigan-Canada
5 Partnership Act”.

6 SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

7 Congress finds the following:

8 (1) The Gordie Howe International Bridge will
9 be a critical piece of United States transportation,

1 trade, and national security infrastructure connecting Detroit, Michigan, and Windsor, Ontario, 2 and linking the economies of the United States and 3 Canada.

5 (2) The Detroit-Windsor crossing is the busiest 6 commercial land border crossing in North America, 7 facilitating the movement of passenger vehicles, 8 freight, and supply chains essential to manufac- 9 turing, agriculture, and energy production in the 10 United States.

11 (3) Trade between the United States and Can- 12 ada supports hundreds of billions of dollars in an- 13 nual economic activity, including a substantial share 14 of U.S. automotive, advanced manufacturing, and 15 agricultural trade that flows through Michigan.

16 (4) Michigan and Canada are longstanding eco- 17 nomic partners, particularly in the automotive sec- 18 tor, where integrated supply chains depend on reli- 19 able, secure, and efficient cross-border infrastruc- 20 ture.

21 (5) In 2012, the State of Michigan and the 22 Government of Canada entered into a bilateral 23 agreement to advance construction of the Gordie 24 Howe International Bridge, under which Michigan 25 and Canada share ownership, with Canada financing

1 construction without direct cost to Michigan tax-
2 payers.

3 (6) That agreement was executed under Repub-
4 lican Governor Rick Snyder and with the coopera-
5 tion of Democratic President Barack Obama, reflect-
6 ing bipartisan recognition of the crossing's impor-
7 tance to American workers, manufacturers, and na-
8 tional competitiveness.

9 (7) Construction of the Gordie Howe Inter-
10 national Bridge began in 2018 and has proceeded
11 pursuant to valid Federal approvals, permits, and
12 authorizations.

13 (8) During his first term, President Donald
14 Trump publicly acknowledged the importance of the
15 Gordie Howe International Bridge through a joint
16 statement with Canadian Prime Minister Justin
17 Trudeau that said they "look forward to the expedi-
18 tious completion of the Gordie Howe International
19 Bridge, which will serve as a vital economic link be-
20 tween our two countries."

21 (9) The Gordie Howe International Bridge will
22 enhance resiliency and increase capacity at the
23 northern border by complementing existing cross-
24 ings, improving freight reliability, and reducing con-

1 gestion and economic risk associated with reliance
2 on a single crossing.

3 (10) Any unilateral Federal action to interfere
4 with the opening or operation of the Gordie Howe
5 International Bridge would harm American workers,
6 manufacturers, farmers, and consumers, disrupt in-
7 tegrated North American supply chains, and under-
8 mine the longstanding partnership between Michigan
9 and Canada.

10 (11) Congress has an interest in ensuring that
11 the Gordie Howe International Bridge is opened and
12 operated in a timely manner consistent with existing
13 agreements, valid permits, and the national eco-
14 nomic and security interests of the United States.

15 **SEC. 3. PROHIBITION.**

16 (a) PROHIBITION ON INTERFERENCE WITH THE
17 GORDIE HOWE INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE.—Notwith-
18 standing any other provision of law, no federal officials,
19 including the President, shall by any means impede the
20 opening of or attempt the closure of the Gordie Howe
21 International Bridge and its associated port of entry un-
22 less approved by an Act of Congress or requested by the
23 Governor of Michigan.

24 (b) AFFIRMATIVE DUTY TO FACILITATE OPER-
25 ATION.—Federal agencies with jurisdiction over the

1 Gordie Howe International Bridge or its associated port
2 of entry shall take all actions necessary to ensure the time-
3 ly opening and continuous operation of the bridge and port
4 of entry.

5 (1) CONTINUOUS OPERATION.—For purposes of
6 this subsection, “continuous operation” means in ac-
7 cordance with the staffing and operational models
8 required by relevant federal agencies, including the
9 U.S. Customs and Border Protection Workforce
10 Staffing Model.

11 (c) PROHIBITED DELAY TACTICS.—No Federal offi-
12 cial may impede, delay, condition, or otherwise interfere
13 with the bridge or port of entry through action or inaction,
14 including by failing to take timely and necessary steps to
15 carry out Federal responsibilities.

16 (d) JUDICIAL REVIEW.—The State of Michigan or
17 any affected local government may bring an action in a
18 United States District Court to compel compliance with
19 this section.