

103D CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 315

To authorize negotiation of free trade agreements with the countries of the Americas, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 4 (legislative day, JANUARY 5), 1993

Mr. GRAMM introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

A BILL

To authorize negotiation of free trade agreements with the countries of the Americas, and for other purposes.

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 “Free Trade In the
5 Americas Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress makes the following findings:

8 (1) The countries of the Western Hemisphere
9 have enjoyed more success in the peaceful conduct of
10 their relations among themselves during this century

1 than have the countries on the other continents of
2 the world.

3 (2) The economic prosperity of the United
4 States and its trading partners in the Western
5 Hemisphere is increased by the mutual reduction of
6 trade barriers.

7 (3) The successful establishment of a North
8 American free trade area will set the pattern for the
9 promotion of the mutual reduction of trade barriers
10 with countries throughout the Western Hemisphere,
11 initiating a process of removing trade barriers and
12 enhancing prosperity instead of the cycle of increas-
13 ing trade barriers and deepening poverty likely to re-
14 sult from a resort to protectionism and trade retalia-
15 tion.

16 (4) Trade protection endangers economic pros-
17 perity in the United States and throughout the
18 Western Hemisphere and undermines civil liberty
19 and constitutionally limited government.

20 (5) The reduction of government interference in
21 the foreign and domestic sectors of a nation's econ-
22 omy and the concomitant promotion of economic op-
23 portunity and freedoms promote civil liberty and
24 constitutionally limited government.

1 (6) Countries that observe a consistent policy of
2 free trade, the promotion of free enterprise and
3 other economic freedoms (including protection of pri-
4 vate property), the removal of barriers to foreign di-
5 rect investment, in the context of constitutionally
6 limited government and minimal interference in the
7 economy, will follow the surest and most effective
8 prescription to alleviate poverty and provide for eco-
9 nomic, social, and political development.

10 **SEC. 3. FREE TRADE AREAS FOR THE WESTERN HEMI-**
11 **SPHERE.**

12 (a) **GENERAL.**—The President shall take action to
13 initiate negotiations to obtain trade agreements with the
14 sovereign countries located in the Western Hemisphere,
15 the terms of which provide for the reduction and ultimate
16 elimination of tariffs and other nontariff barriers to trade,
17 for the purpose of promoting the eventual establishment
18 of a free trade area for the entire Western Hemisphere.

19 (b) **RECIPROCAL BASIS.**—An agreement entered into
20 under subsection (a) shall be reciprocal and provide mu-
21 tual reductions in trade barriers to promote trade, eco-
22 nomic growth, and employment.

23 (c) **BILATERAL OR MULTILATERAL BASIS.**—Agree-
24 ments may be entered into under subsection (a) on a bilat-
25 eral basis with any foreign country described in that sub-

1 section or on a multilateral basis with all of such countries
2 or any group of such countries.

3 **SEC. 4. IMPLEMENTATION OF TRADE AGREEMENTS.**

4 The provisions of section 151 of the Trade Act of
5 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2191) apply to implementing bills sub-
6 mitted with respect to trade agreements entered into pur-
7 suant to the provisions of this Act.

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