

House Resolution No. 2780

95TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

5519L.01I

1 **Whereas**, Spartan Light Metal Products has been an industry leader in magnesium
2 custom die castings for the past four decades, with the company being owned and operated as
3 a family business since 1961 and employing over 600 people; and
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5 **Whereas**, Spartan Light Metal Products provides die cast products from
6 magnesium alloys that reduce weight and improve performance of products at competitive costs;
7 and
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9 **Whereas**, magnesium die castings, such as Spartan Light Metal Products, are being
10 greatly harmed by the tariffs 731-TA-1071 and 731-TA-1072 that have been placed on imported
11 magnesium alloys by the United States International Trade Commission. These tariffs allow the
12 nation's lone magnesium producer to set whatever price it chooses for raw magnesium, driving
13 many die cast companies out of business; and
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15 **Whereas**, the tariffs have created an advantage for foreign competitors who can
16 purchase magnesium at globally-competitive prices and export finished products to United States
17 markets free of penalties. This practice replaces United States manufacturing jobs and could lead
18 to bankruptcy for the industry; and
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20 **Whereas**, the tariffs have also placed United States automobile manufacturers at
21 a cost and weight disadvantage against foreign carmakers in meeting Corporate Average Fuel
22 Economy requirements. As a result, approximately 60% of Spartan Light Metal Products'
23 magnesium business for 2011 is disappearing at a time when the demand for magnesium
24 products is growing:
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26 **Now, therefore, be it resolved** that the members of the House of
27 Representatives of the Ninety-fifth General Assembly, Second Regular Session, hereby urge the
28 President of the United States and the United States Congress to find a creative solution to
29 protect the nation's lone magnesium producer without destroying the United States magnesium
30 die cast industry; and
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32 **Be it further resolved** that the Missouri House of Representatives further
33 urges the President of the United States and the United States Congress to lift tariffs 731-TA-
34 1071 and 731-TA-1072 on die cast magnesium alloys from China and Russia or create a fair
35 market by placing a similar tariff on imported assemblies and products made from die cast
36 magnesium alloys; and
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38 **Be it further resolved** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of
39 Representatives be instructed to prepare properly inscribed copies of this resolution for President
40 Barack Obama and each member of the Missouri Congressional delegation.

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