



# SouthEastern Arizona Governments Organization

*Serving our member governments and their constituents since 1972*

## SEAGO Member Entities

### *Cochise County*

*Benson  
Bisbee  
Douglas  
Huachuca City  
Sierra Vista  
Tombstone  
Willcox*

### *Graham County*

*Pima  
Safford  
San Carlos  
Apache Tribe  
Thatcher*

### *Greenlee County*

*Clifton  
Duncan*

### *Santa Cruz County*

*Nogales  
Patagonia*

## SEAGO Main Office

- **Administration**
- **Community and Economic Development**
- **Transportation**

*1403 W. Hwy 92  
Bisbee, AZ 85603  
520-432-5301  
520-432-5858 Fax*

## Area Agency on Aging Office

*300 Collins Road  
Bisbee, AZ 85603  
520-432-2528  
520-432-9168 Fax*

[www.seago.org](http://www.seago.org)

## RESOLUTION NO. 2018-01

### A RESOLUTION OF THE SOUTHEASTERN ARIZONA GOVERNMENTS ORGANIZATION SUPPORTING THE CONTINUATION OF THE NORTH AMERICAN FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

**WHEREAS**, on January 1, 1994, the U.S. formally entered into the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) which, among other things, removed many tariffs and other barriers to trade between the U.S., Mexico and Canada, and facilitated increased trade in agriculture, textiles, and automotive manufacturing.

**WHEREAS**, according to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, trade with Canada and Mexico has nearly quadrupled to \$1.3 trillion since the enactment of NAFTA, and now supports nearly 14 million American jobs; and

**WHEREAS**, since NAFTA took effect, trade volumes between Mexico and Arizona have increased by more than 300%, with 41% of Arizona's exports now going to Mexico; and

**WHEREAS**, NAFTA's positive impact on the Arizona economy has been well documented by extensive analysis and data. For example, in 2016:

- Arizona experienced a \$900 million trade surplus with Mexico, with exports to Mexico of \$8.3 billion and imports from Mexico of \$7.4 billion, according to International Trade Association data.
- Arizona exports to Canada reached \$2.1 billion according to International Trade Association data.
- U.S. exports to Mexico through Arizona ports of entry reached \$11.9 billion.
- The fresh produce import and distribution industry in Santa Cruz County, Arizona supported more than 4,000 jobs.
- A large majority of Arizona's metal ores (96%), engines and turbines (91%), and vegetables and melons (77%) were exported to Mexico and Canada; and

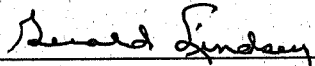
**WHEREAS**, since announcing the United States' intention to renegotiate NAFTA, six out of seven negotiating sessions held by and between the NAFTA trade partners have produced few points of agreement, and the Administration has indicated that if the U.S. is unable to reach agreement on specific negotiating objectives, it may terminate the Agreement; and

**WHEREAS**, an analysis by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce concluded that if NAFTA was terminated, Arizona risks the elimination of 236,000 direct and indirect border related jobs.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:**

- 1) That the SEAGO Executive Board recognizes that, as a 24 year old trade agreement, it is understandable and advisable that NAFTA be thoroughly reviewed by each of the affected countries, and modernized to reflect the economic changes that the U.S., Mexico, and Canada have experienced over the past 24 years; and
- 2) That the SEAGO Executive Board urges the affected countries to update and modernize the trade agreement, and agree to mutually acceptable terms consistent with the respective countries' current economic conditions, relationships, and needs; and
- 3) That the SEAGO Executive Board urges the affected countries to renegotiate NAFTA in good faith, and reach terms favorable to continuing the Agreement as it is critical to maintain the vibrant and successful economic relationship between the U.S., Mexico, and Canada.

Passed and adopted by the SEAGO Executive Board on this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of February, 2018.



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Gerald "Sam" Lindsey, Chair  
Executive Board



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Randy Heiss, Executive Director  
SouthEastern Arizona Governments Organization