

RESOLUTION NO. 3169

A RESOLUTION of the Port Commission of the Port of Seattle
Expressing Support for the United States Renewal
of Most Favored Nation (MFN) Trading Status for
China.

WHEREAS, the Port of Seattle has long-standing and widespread
trading and business relations with China, which began with the arrival in
Seattle of the first Chinese cargo ship in a U.S. port on April 18, 1979; and

WHEREAS, the Port has had an active sister-port relationship with
the Port of Shanghai since 1979; and

WHEREAS, the Port's customers include the China Ocean Shipping
Company (COSCO) and China Eastern Airlines; and

WHEREAS, trade with China passing through Seattle amounts to over
\$3 billion, representing five hundred jobs.

WHEREAS, the State of Washington is the leading exporter in all U.S.
states of goods going to China; and

WHEREAS, the Commission believes that the complex and serious
questions of China's adherence to international standards of human rights and
other economic and security concerns are most effectively addressed in a context
of open and engaged dialogue between the U.S. and Chinese governments; and

WHEREAS, the Commission believes that such open and engaged dialogue
is more likely to be maintained if China's trading status with the U.S. as a
Most Favored Nation (MFN) is not only renewed, but permanently established; and

WHEREAS, the Commission believes that such action will lead to
greater success in relations with China by separating trade from human rights
and other foreign policy concerns;

NOW THEREFORE, the Port of Seattle Commission resolves that,
recognizing the importance of both the issues of China's human rights
performance and trade and trade-related jobs for the Port and this region with
China, it encourages the U.S. President to recommend and the U.S. Congress to
renew MFN status for China on a permanent basis and without conditions.

ADOPTED by the Port Commission of the Port of Seattle at a regular meeting thereof held this 22nd day of March, 1994, and duly authenticated in open session by the signatures of the Commissioners voting in favor thereof and the seal of the Commission.

Patricia Davis
John Shell
Fay Grant
John B. ...
Paige R. Miller
Port Commission