

HIGHLIGHTS OF CANADA-UNITED STATES FREE TRADE AGREEMENT
IMPLEMENTATION ACT

- The Act gives effect in domestic law to the Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement, which was signed on January 2, 1988 and is appended to the Act.
- The Act is in five parts and covers all legislative changes required to implement the Agreement.

Part I - General Implementation

- Part I approves the Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement, and establishes the precedence of the Agreement and the Act over inconsistent federal legislation. It also requires the exercise of power under federal law to be consistent with the Agreement.
- Part I authorizes the Governor in Council to make regulations for the purpose of giving effect in any given province to the provisions of Chapter Eight of the Agreement (Wine and Distilled Spirits). Such regulations would only be made following consultation with a province where that province's laws and practices contravene our Chapter Eight commitments.
- Part I also provides for the appointment of Canadian representatives on the Canada-United States Trade Commission established under Chapter Eighteen of the Agreement. The functions of the Commission include supervising the implementation of the FTA, resolving disputes about its interpretation and application, and overseeing its future elaboration.
- In addition, Section 6 of the Act sets out Parliament's right to enact further legislation, if necessary, to implement any provision of the Agreement or to fulfill any of Canada's obligations under the Agreement.

Dept. of External Affairs
Ministère des Affaires extérieures

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