

JAN 17 2024

SENATE RESOLUTION

ENDORISING THE PARTICIPATION OF TAIWAN AS AN OBSERVER IN THE UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE, INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION, WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION, AND INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL POLICE ORGANIZATION; SUPPORTING THE FURTHER PROGRESS ON THE US-TAIWAN INITIATIVE ON 21ST-CENTURY TRADE, A SPEEDY CONCLUSION TO THIS NEGOTIATION, AND ENCOURAGING THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE TO COMMENCE NEGOTIATIONS TO ENTER INTO A BILATERAL TRADE AGREEMENT WITH TAIWAN; AND SUPPORTING THE STATE OF HAWAII'S THIRTY-FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF SISTER-STATE RELATIONS WITH TAIWAN AND COMMEMORATING THE FORTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TAIWAN RELATIONS ACT.

1 WHEREAS, the United States and the Republic of China, known
2 commonly in the United States as Taiwan, are bonded by a shared
3 commitment to democracy, human rights, the rule of law, and a
4 free market economy; and

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6 WHEREAS, for years, Taiwan has actively engaged in climate
7 change research, supported anti-terrorism cooperation, and
8 worked with its partners to tackle transnational crime; and

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10 WHEREAS, Taiwan's meaningful participation in bodies such
11 as the World Health Organization, International Criminal Police
12 Organization, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate
13 Change, and International Civil Aviation Organization would make
14 international mechanisms truly global; and

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16 WHEREAS, the Congress of the United States passed the
17 landmark Taiwan Relations Act in 1979, which is the foundation
18 of United States-Taiwan relations as it promotes a close
19 bilateral relationship that advances mutual security and
20 commercial interests between the United States and Taiwan; and

21
22 WHEREAS, preserving peace and stability in the Taiwan
23 Strait is crucial to the maintenance of a free and open Indo-
24 Pacific and Taiwan is an indispensable partner in this endeavor;
25 and



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1 WHEREAS, Taiwan is the ninth largest trade partner of the
2 United States, with bilateral trade totaling \$135.5 billion in
3 2022; and

4
5 WHEREAS, Taiwan supports the United States-led Indo-Pacific
6 Economic Framework, as it will help bolster the economic
7 potential of the region by defining shared trade objectives
8 among partners and by addressing standards for technology,
9 supply chains, the digital economy and clean energy; and

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11 WHEREAS, the United States-Taiwan Initiative on 21st Century
12 Trade intends to develop concrete methods to deepen their
13 economic and trade relationship, advance mutual trade priorities
14 based on shared values, and promote innovative and inclusive
15 economic growth for our workers and businesses, including
16 through new trade agreements; and

17
18 WHEREAS, in order to strengthen bilateral trade, the
19 government of Taiwan has expressed its desire for a Bilateral
20 Trade Agreement, Bilateral Investment Agreement, and an
21 Avoidance of Double Taxation agreement; and

22
23 WHEREAS, since establishing a sister-state relationship in
24 1993, Hawaii and Taiwan have developed an enduring and mutually
25 beneficial friendship exemplified by the Taiwan government's
26 generous \$500,000 contribution to Hawaii in the aftermath of the
27 disastrous Maui wildfire in 2023; and

28
29 WHEREAS, Taiwan is Hawaii's tenth largest import partner,
30 and its ninth largest export partner, as Taiwan imported \$54
31 million worth of goods, with award-winning Kona coffee beans
32 being the most popular, and exported \$13 million worth of goods
33 in 2023; and

34
35 WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii Office in Taipei and the
36 Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Honolulu have been
37 working together to promote substantial cooperation and
38 exchanges in the areas of tourism, agriculture, culture,
39 education, and trade between Hawaii and Taiwan; and

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41 WHEREAS, the United States-Taiwan Education Initiative was
42 launched in 2020 to strengthen cooperation in international



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1 education and to highlight Taiwan's capacity to provide Mandarin
2 language instruction; and

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4 WHEREAS, given Mandarin's designation as a critical
5 language, as well as Taiwan's plans to be bilingual by 2030,
6 schools and institutions of higher education in both Hawaii and
7 Taiwan are encouraged to enhance their exchanges, as exemplified
8 by the partnership between the University of Hawaii and the
9 National Tsing Hua University; and

10
11 WHEREAS, Taiwan has established the Gift Scholarship at the
12 University of Hawaii to sponsor Language Flagship for students
13 interested in Mandarin immersion programs in Taiwan, and the
14 University of Hawaii and the National Taiwan Ocean University
15 have signed a memorandum of understanding on Academic
16 Cooperation and an Agreement of Cooperative 3+2 Master Programs,
17 which will further improve the bilateral exchange of education;
18 and

19
20 WHEREAS, the United States has assisted Taiwan in
21 participating in the World Health Organization, the
22 International Civil Aviation Organization, and the International
23 Criminal Police Organization and will continue to support
24 Taiwan's meaningful participation in these and other
25 international organizations; now, therefore,

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27 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second
28 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2024,
29 that this body joins the United States to endorse the
30 participation of Taiwan as an observer in the United Nations
31 Framework Convention on Climate Change, International Civil
32 Aviation Organization, World Health Organization, and
33 International Criminal Police Organization; and

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35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body supports the further
36 progress on the US-Taiwan Initiative on 21st-Century Trade, a
37 speedy conclusion to this negotiation, and encourages the United
38 States Trade Representative to commence negotiations to enter
39 into a bilateral trade agreement with Taiwan; and

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41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body supports the State of
42 Hawaii's thirty-first anniversary of sister-state relations with



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1 Taiwan and commemorates the forty-fifth anniversary of the
2 Taiwan Relations Act; and

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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
5 Resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States,
6 President of the United States Senate, Speaker of the United
7 States House of Representatives, United States Secretary of
8 State, members of Hawaii's congressional delegation, Governor,
9 and Director of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

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OFFERED BY: 

