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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ENDORSING TAIWAN'S PARTICIPATION AS AN OBSERVER IN THE UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE, INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION, WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION, AND INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL POLICE ORGANIZATION AND SUPPORTING TAIWAN'S PARTICIPATION IN THE TWENTY-THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF SISTER-STATE RELATIONS WITH TAIWAN.

WHEREAS, the United States Department of State has officially affirmed its support for the participation of Taiwan as an observer in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and in the International Civil Aviation Organization; and

WHEREAS, climate change has become a major global issue confronting humanity in the twenty-first century, and Taiwan's inclusion in the UNFCCC as an observer will enable Taiwan to make valuable contributions to the international community; and

WHEREAS, Taiwan is a key air transport hub that links Northeast and Southeast Asia, and inclusion of Taiwan in the International Civil Aviation Organization as an observer will ensure the aviation safety of passengers from Taiwan and abroad; and

WHEREAS, since April 2009, Taiwan's Health Minister was invited by the Director General of the World Health Organization to lead a delegation to attend the annual World Health Assembly as an observer, setting a precedent for Taiwan's participation in United Nations specialized agencies; and

WHEREAS, United States President Barack Obama has signed a bill that requires the United States Secretary of State to develop a strategy to obtain observer status for Taiwan in the

International Criminal Police Organization and other international groups; and

WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii and the Taiwan Province of the Republic of China jointly established a sister state relationship in 1993 to promote international understanding and goodwill and to strengthen a greater friendship between the residents of Hawaii and Taiwan; and

WHEREAS, over the past twenty-three years, the bonds of true friendship and a steadfast trade partnership between Hawaii and Taiwan have strengthened, resulting in a better economic, social, and cultural exchange between the two governments; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2016, the Senate concurring, that this body joins the United States to endorse 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; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body supports Taiwan's participation in the twenty-third anniversary of sister-state relations with Taiwan; and

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