
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

SUPPORTING A CLOSER PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND TAIWAN IN VALUES AND COMMON GOALS, THE RELATIONSHIPS AND EXCHANGES BETWEEN THE STATE OF HAWAII AND TAIWAN, TAIWAN'S INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPATION, AND THE SIGNING OF A UNITED STATES-TAIWAN BILATERAL TRADE AGREEMENT.

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, Taiwan actively engages in climate change
7 research, supports anti-terrorism cooperation, and works with
8 its partners to tackle transnational crime; and

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

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16 WHEREAS, the Congress of the United States passed the
17 landmark Taiwan Relations Act in 1979 to sustain a close
18 bilateral relationship and advance mutual security and
19 commercial interests between the United States and Taiwan; and

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21 WHEREAS, the Taiwan Relations Act serves as the cornerstone
22 of United States-Taiwan relations, preserving peace and
23 stability in the Taiwan Strait, which is crucial to the
24 maintenance of a free and open Indo-Pacific region; and

25
26 WHEREAS, Taiwan is an indispensable partner in safeguarding
27 peace and stability in the Indo-Pacific region; and

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

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

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11 WHEREAS, Taiwan has expressed support for, and wishes to
12 become a full member of, the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework;
13 and

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15 WHEREAS, the intent of the United States-Taiwan Initiative
16 on 21st-Century Trade is to develop concrete methods to deepen
17 the economic and trade relationship between the two countries;
18 advance mutual trade priorities based on shared values; and
19 promote innovative and inclusive economic growth for workers and
20 businesses in both countries, including through new trade
21 agreements; and

22
23 WHEREAS, to strengthen bilateral trade, the government of
24 Taiwan has expressed its desire to sign with the United States a
25 Bilateral Trade Agreement, Bilateral Investment Agreement, and
26 an Avoidance of Double Taxation Agreement; and

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28 WHEREAS, Hawaii and Taiwan established a sister-state
29 relationship in 1993, developing an enduring and mutually
30 beneficial friendship exemplified by the government of Taiwan's
31 generous contribution of \$500,000 to Hawaii in the aftermath of
32 the Maui wildfire disaster of August 2023; and

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34 WHEREAS, Taiwan is Hawaii's tenth-largest import partner,
35 having a totaled value of \$54,000,000, and ninth-largest export
36 partner, having a totaled value of \$13,000,000 in 2021; and

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38 WHEREAS, compared to other states, Hawaii is one of the top
39 exporters of agriculture products to Taiwan; and

40
41 WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii Office in Taipei and the
42 Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Honolulu have worked



1 together to promote substantial cooperation and exchanges in
2 areas of tourism, agriculture, culture, education, and trade;
3 and
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5 WHEREAS, the United States-Taiwan Education Initiative was
6 launched in 2020 to strengthen cooperation on international
7 education and highlight Taiwan's ability to provide Mandarin
8 language instruction; and
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10 WHEREAS, given Mandarin's designation in the United States
11 as a critical language, as well as Taiwan's plans to be
12 bilingual by 2030, schools and institutions of higher education
13 in both Hawaii and Taiwan are encouraged to enhance their
14 exchange programs, as exemplified by the partnership between the
15 University of Hawaii and the National Tsing Hua University; and
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17 WHEREAS, Taiwan has established a gift scholarship program
18 at the University of Hawaii to sponsor Language Flagship
19 students for Mandarin immersion programs in Taiwan; and
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21 WHEREAS, the University of Hawaii and the National Taiwan
22 Ocean University have signed a memorandum of understanding on
23 Academic Cooperation and Agreement of Cooperative 3+2 Master
24 Programs, which will further improve the bilateral exchange of
25 education; and
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27 WHEREAS, the United States has assisted Taiwan in
28 participating in the World Health Organization, International
29 Civil Aviation Organization, and International Criminal Police
30 Organization and will continue to support Taiwan's meaningful
31 participation in these and other international organizations;
32 now, therefore,
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34 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
35 Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
36 Session of 2024, the Senate concurring, that the Legislature of
37 the State of Hawaii endorses the participation of Taiwan as an
38 observer in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate
39 Change, International Civil Aviation Organization, World Health
40 Organization, and International Criminal Police Organization;
41 and
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H.C.R. NO. 96

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of the State of
2 Hawaii supports further progress on the United States-Taiwan
3 Initiative on 21st-Century Trade and the early conclusion of
4 negotiations, and encourages the United States Trade
5 Representative to commence negotiations to enter into a
6 bilateral trade agreement with Taiwan; and
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8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of the State of
9 Hawaii commemorates the State of Hawaii's thirty-first
10 anniversary of sister-state relations with Taiwan and the
11 forty-fifth anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act; and
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13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
14 measure be transmitted to the President of the United States;
15 Majority Leader of the United States Senate; Speaker of the
16 United States House of Representatives; United States Secretary
17 of State; United States Trade Representative; members of
18 Hawaii's Congressional delegation; Governor of Hawaii; and
19 Director of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.
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OFFERED BY: _____



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