

JAN 17 2024

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# SENATE CONCURRENT 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

5  
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

9  
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

15  
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-



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1 Pacific and Taiwan is an indispensable partner in this endeavor;  
2 and  
3

4 WHEREAS, Taiwan is the ninth largest trade partner of the  
5 United States, with bilateral trade totaling \$135.5 billion in  
6 2022; and  
7

8 WHEREAS, Taiwan supports the United States-led Indo-Pacific  
9 Economic Framework, as it will help bolster the economic  
10 potential of the region by defining shared trade objectives  
11 among partners and by addressing standards for technology,  
12 supply chains, the digital economy and clean energy; and  
13

14 WHEREAS, the United States-Taiwan Initiative on 21<sup>st</sup> Century  
15 Trade intends to develop concrete methods to deepen their  
16 economic and trade relationship, advance mutual trade priorities  
17 based on shared values, and promote innovative and inclusive  
18 economic growth for our workers and businesses, including  
19 through new trade agreements; and  
20

21 WHEREAS, in order to strengthen bilateral trade, the  
22 government of Taiwan has expressed its desire for a Bilateral  
23 Trade Agreement, Bilateral Investment Agreement, and an  
24 Avoidance of Double Taxation agreement; and  
25

26 WHEREAS, since establishing a sister-state relationship in  
27 1993, Hawaii and Taiwan have developed an enduring and mutually  
28 beneficial friendship exemplified by the Taiwan government's  
29 generous \$500,000 contribution to Hawaii in the aftermath of the  
30 disastrous Maui wildfire in 2023; and  
31

32 WHEREAS, Taiwan is Hawaii's tenth largest import partner,  
33 and its ninth largest export partner, as Taiwan imported \$54  
34 million worth of goods, with award-winning Kona coffee beans  
35 being the most popular, and exported \$13 million worth of goods  
36 in 2023; and  
37

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



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1  
2 WHEREAS, the United States-Taiwan Education Initiative was  
3 launched in 2020 to strengthen cooperation in international  
4 education and to highlight Taiwan's capacity to provide Mandarin  
5 language instruction; and  
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7 WHEREAS, given Mandarin's designation as a critical  
8 language, as well as Taiwan's plans to be bilingual by 2030,  
9 schools and institutions of higher education in both Hawaii and  
10 Taiwan are encouraged to enhance their exchanges, as exemplified  
11 by the partnership between the University of Hawaii and the  
12 National Tsing Hua University; and  
13

14 WHEREAS, Taiwan has established the Gift Scholarship at the  
15 University of Hawaii to sponsor Language Flagship for students  
16 interested in Mandarin immersion programs in Taiwan, and the  
17 University of Hawaii and the National Taiwan Ocean University  
18 have signed a memorandum of understanding on Academic  
19 Cooperation and an Agreement of Cooperative 3+2 Master Programs,  
20 which will further improve the bilateral exchange of education;  
21 and  
22

23 WHEREAS, the United States has assisted Taiwan in  
24 participating in the World Health Organization, the  
25 International Civil Aviation Organization, and the International  
26 Criminal Police Organization and will continue to support  
27 Taiwan's meaningful participation in these and other  
28 international organizations; now, therefore,  
29

30 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second  
31 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2024, the  
32 House of Representatives concurring, that this body joins the  
33 United States to endorse the participation of Taiwan as an  
34 observer in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate  
35 Change, International Civil Aviation Organization, World Health  
36 Organization, and International Criminal Police Organization;  
37 and  
38

39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body supports the further  
40 progress on the US-Taiwan Initiative on 21<sup>st</sup>-Century Trade, a  
41 speedy conclusion to this negotiation, and encourages the United



# S.C.R. NO. 2

1 States Trade Representative to commence negotiations to enter  
2 into a bilateral trade agreement with Taiwan; and  
3

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body supports the State of  
5 Hawaii's thirty-first anniversary of sister-state relations with  
6 Taiwan and commemorates the forty-fifth anniversary of the  
7 Taiwan Relations Act; and  
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9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
10 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the  
11 United States, President of the United States Senate, Speaker of  
12 the United States House of Representatives, United States  
13 Secretary of State, members of Hawaii's congressional  
14 delegation, Governor, and Director of Business, Economic  
15 Development, and Tourism.  
16  
17  
18

OFFERED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'ASJ', is written over a horizontal line.