
SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING THIS BODY 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; SUPPORTING THE FURTHER PROGRESS ON THE UNITED STATES-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-



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 \$135,500,000,000 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 21st-
15 Century Trade intends to develop concrete methods to deepen
16 their economic and trade relationship, advance mutual trade
17 priorities based on shared values, and promote innovative and
18 inclusive economic growth for 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
34 \$54,000,000 worth of goods, with award-winning Kona coffee beans
35 being the most popular, and exported \$13,000,000 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



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

6
 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,
 32 that this body is urged to join the United States to endorse the
 33 participation of Taiwan as an observer in the United Nations
 34 Framework Convention on Climate Change, International Civil
 35 Aviation Organization, World Health Organization, and
 36 International Criminal Police Organization; and

37
 38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body is urged to support
 39 the further progress on the United States-Taiwan Initiative on
 40 21st-Century Trade, a speedy conclusion to this negotiation, and
 41 encourage the United States Trade Representative to commence



1 negotiations to enter into a bilateral trade agreement with
2 Taiwan; and

3
4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body is urged to support
5 the State of Hawaii's thirty-first anniversary of sister-state
6 relations with Taiwan and commemorates the forty-fifth
7 anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act; and

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

