THE SENATE THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE, 2025 STATE OF HAWAII S.R. NO. <sup>17</sup> s.d. 1

## SENATE RESOLUTION

ENDORSING TAIWAN'S INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPATION, SUPPORTING THE SIGNING OF A UNITED STATES-TAIWAN BILATERAL TRADE AGREEMENT, AND COMMEMORATING THE RELATIONSHIPS AND EXCHANGES BETWEEN THE STATE OF HAWAII AND TAIWAN.

WHEREAS, the United States and Taiwan are bonded by a 1 shared commitment to democracy, freedom, human rights, the rule 2 of law, and a free market economy; and 3 4 WHEREAS, to further support and reinforce trading 5 partnerships, the United States-Taiwan Initiative on 21st 6 Century Trade has reached an agreement to develop concrete 7 methods to deepen their economic and trade relationship, advance 8 9 mutual trade priorities based on shared values, and promote innovative and inclusive economic growth for workers and 10 businesses, including through new trade agreements; and 11 12 WHEREAS, in order to strengthen bilateral trade, the 13 government of Taiwan has expressed its desire to sign a 14 Bilateral Trade Agreement, Bilateral Investment Agreement, and 15 16 Avoidance of Double Taxation Agreement with the United States; and 17 18 19 WHEREAS, Hawaii and Taiwan have an established sister-state relationship since 1993, that has developed an enduring and 20 mutually beneficiary friendship exemplified by the Taiwan 21 government's generous \$500,000 contribution to Hawaii in the 22 aftermath of the 2023 Maui wildfires; and 23 24 25 WHEREAS, in addition to the strong reciprocal trading partnership, the State of Hawaii Office in Taipei and Taipei 26 Economic and Cultural Office in Honolulu have been working 27 together to promote substantial cooperation and exchanges in 28 areas of tourism, agriculture, culture, and education; and 29 30 WHEREAS, the United States-Taiwan Education Initiative was 31 launched in 2020 to strengthen cooperation on international 32



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education and highlight Taiwan's ability to provide Mandarin 1 language instruction; and 2 3 WHEREAS, given Mandarin's designation as a critical 4 language and Taiwan's plans to be bilingual by 2030, schools and 5 institutions of higher education in both Hawaii and Taiwan are 6 encouraged to enhance their exchanges, as exemplified by the 7 partnership between University of Hawaii and the National Tsing 8 9 Hua University; and 10 WHEREAS, for years, Taiwan has actively engaged in climate 11 change research, supported anti-terrorism cooperation, and 12 13 worked with its partners to tackle transnational crime; and 14 WHEREAS, Taiwan's meaningful participation in bodies such 15 as the World Health Organization, International Criminal Police 16 Organization, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate 17 18 Change, and International Civil Aviation Organization would make international mechanisms truly global; and 19 20 21 WHEREAS, the United States has assisted Taiwan in participating in the World Health Organization, International 22 Civil Aviation Organization, and International Criminal Police 23 Organization and will continue to support Taiwan's meaningful 24 participation in these and other international organizations; 25 26 now, therefore, 27 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-third 28 29 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2025, that this body joins the United States to endorse the 30 participation of Taiwan as an observer in the United Nations 31 32 Framework Convention on Climate Change, International Civil Aviation Organization, World Health Organization, and 33 International Criminal Police Organization; and 34 35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body supports the first 36 agreement under the United States-Taiwan Initiative on 21st 37 Century Trade, and encourages the United States Trade 38 Representative to commence negotiations to enter in to a 39 bilateral trade agreement with Taiwan; and 40 41



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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body commemorates the State of Hawaii's thirty-second anniversary of sister-state relations with Taiwan and supports mutual beneficiary exchanges and cooperation with Taiwan; and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this 7 Resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States; 8 President Pro Tempore of the United States Senate; Speaker of 9 the United States House of Representatives; United States 10 Secretary of State; members of Hawaii's congressional 11 delegation; Governor; and Director of Business, Economic 12 Development, and Tourism.

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