

By: Jetton

H.C.R. No. 86

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1           WHEREAS, The longstanding bonds of friendship between the  
2 United States and Taiwan, embodied in the Taiwan Relations Act of  
3 1979, continue to yield important economic, social, strategic, and  
4 cultural benefits; and

5           WHEREAS, Taiwan ranks as the United States' ninth largest  
6 trading partner, and bilateral trade reached \$114 billion in 2021;  
7 that same year, Taiwan was the sixth largest export market for U.S.  
8 agricultural products; the robust U.S.-Taiwan trade and investment  
9 partnership provides a solid foundation for a mutually beneficial  
10 bilateral trade agreement (BTA) to spur job creation, further  
11 expand the global market, and secure international supply chains;  
12 and

13           WHEREAS, Taiwan is committed to helping address global  
14 challenges, from humanitarian crises to nontraditional security  
15 threats; moreover, the country has emerged as an important partner  
16 in pandemic prevention, bolstering unprecedented international  
17 support for Taiwan's bid to participate in the World Health  
18 Assembly (WHA); and

19           WHEREAS, Taiwanese officials and civil society groups  
20 partner with the United States on a range of issues to promote our  
21 common values of freedom, democracy, and human rights; these  
22 partnerships build on the cooperative tradition of prior  
23 initiatives, such as the Global Cooperation and Training Framework  
24 (GCTF), which advances Taiwanese leadership in such arenas as

1 democratization, human rights, women's empowerment, and public  
2 health; and

3       WHEREAS, Since 1988, Texas and Taiwan have maintained a  
4 sister-state relationship, and they enjoy particularly close  
5 economic ties; Taiwan is Texas' 10th largest overseas market, and  
6 Texas exported over \$7.69 billion in goods and services to Taiwan in  
7 2020; the establishment of a Texas Trade and Investment Office in  
8 Taiwan could enhance the participation of small- and medium-sized  
9 enterprises in trade and investment and advance sister-state ties  
10 between Texas and Taiwan; and

11       WHEREAS, Texas and the United States have benefited  
12 immeasurably through decades of unwavering friendship with Taiwan,  
13 and the wider world is sure to reap tremendous rewards as Taiwan  
14 works to enhance its presence in the international community; now,  
15 therefore, be it

16       RESOLVED, That the 88th Legislature of the State of Texas  
17 hereby express its support for the strengthening of our partnership  
18 with Taiwan and for the expansion of Taiwan's role on the global  
19 stage; and, be it further

20       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives and Senate  
21 hereby:

22       (a) express support for a bilateral trade agreement between  
23 the United States and Taiwan;

24       (b) express support for Taiwan's meaningful participation  
25 in the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity, the World  
26 Health Assembly, the International Civil Aviation Organization,  
27 the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and

1 other organizations;

2 (c) express support for a Texas Trade and Investment Office  
3 in Taiwan; and

4 (d) celebrate the 44th anniversary of the enactment of the  
5 Taiwan Relations Act and the 35th anniversary of the sister-state  
6 relationship between the State of Texas and Taiwan; and, be it  
7 further

8 RESOLVED, That official copies of this resolution be prepared  
9 for the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Houston as an  
10 expression of the sentiment of the Texas House of Representatives  
11 and Senate.