

By: Kolkhorst

S.C.R. No. 34

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.