

By: Chavez

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CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of
2 health is a fundamental right of every human being without regard to
3 race, religion, political belief, or economic or social condition;
4 in an era when the peoples of the world have become increasingly
5 connected and interdependent, more than ever before ensuring
6 optimum levels of public health is a global concern essential to the
7 continued well-being of humankind; and

8 WHEREAS, Providing access to health information and the
9 services crucial to improved and sustained public health, the
10 World Health Organization (WHO) has worked since its inception
11 toward the attainment by all peoples of the highest possible level
12 of health; and

13 WHEREAS, Key to fulfilling the mission of WHO is the
14 leadership provided by the 192 member nations who convene annually
15 as the organization's policymaking body, the World Health Assembly;
16 these countries have long recognized that direct, unobstructed
17 participation in international health programs and forums is
18 critical to limiting the spread of disease and achieving world
19 health; and

20 WHEREAS, In keeping with the principles of WHO's charge, the
21 United States and the European Parliament have endorsed the bid of
22 Taiwan, Republic of China, to obtain observer status at the annual
23 summit of the World Health Assembly held in May 2003 in Geneva,
24 Switzerland; and

1 WHEREAS, These endorsements reflect international
2 recognition of the spectacular record of public health achieved by
3 Taiwan; among this nation's accomplishments are attainment of one
4 of the highest life-expectancy rates in Asia and maternal and
5 infant mortality rates comparable to those of western countries;
6 the eradication of infectious diseases such as cholera, smallpox,
7 polio, and the plague; and its pioneering efforts as the first
8 nation in Asia to provide children with hepatitis B vaccinations;
9 with such a sterling record of achievement, Taiwan has proven
10 itself deserving of permission to attend this year's gathering of
11 the World Health Assembly; now, therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the 78th Legislature of the State of Texas
13 recognize Taiwan, Republic of China, for its contributions to
14 promoting world health and support Taiwan's bid to obtain observer
15 status in the World Health Organization.