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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The State of Illinois established a sister-state relationship with Taiwan, the Republic of China (ROC), in 1992; since that time, Illinois and Taiwan have enjoyed strong bilateral trade, educational and cultural exchanges, and tourism; and

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WHEREAS, Taiwan shares the same values of freedom, democracy, human rights, the rule of law, peace, and prosperity with the United States and the State of Illinois; and

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WHEREAS, The United States ranks as Taiwan's second-largest trading partner, and Taiwan is the eighth-largest trading partner of the United States, ranking higher than France, India, Brazil, and Australia; bilateral trade between the U.S. and Taiwan reached more than US\$ 128 billion in 2023, and Taiwan is the 13th-largest export market for U.S. goods; and

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WHEREAS, The United States is a leading destination for Taiwan's overseas investment, and the trade and investment with Taiwan creates and supports 360,400 well-paid American jobs in the United States; the first agreement under the U.S.-Taiwan Initiative on 21st-Century Trade came into effect

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1 in December 2024; and

2 WHEREAS, Taiwan imported nearly US\$ 3.7 billion worth of  
3 U.S. farm products in 2023, making it the seventh-largest  
4 market for U.S. agricultural products overall and the  
5 fourth-largest market on a per capita basis among the top 10  
6 U.S. agricultural export destinations; due to its high quality  
7 produce, the U.S. remains one of Taiwan's largest sources of  
8 agricultural products, supplying more than one-fifth of the  
9 country's major agricultural imports; and

10 WHEREAS, Taiwan and the State of Illinois have enjoyed a  
11 long and mutually beneficial relationship with the prospect of  
12 future growth; Taiwan was Illinois' sixth-largest export  
13 market in Asia and 19th-largest export market globally in  
14 2023, with US\$ 758 million worth of Illinois goods being  
15 exported to the country and a US\$ 51 million investment from  
16 Taiwan being received by the State of Illinois; trade and  
17 investment from Taiwan supports up to 6,285 quality jobs in  
18 Illinois; and

19 WHEREAS, To strengthen the Taiwan-Illinois bilateral  
20 economic relationship, it is essential to support Illinois  
21 businesses to enhance their economic engagement with Taiwan  
22 based on the 1979 Taiwan Relations Act (TRA, Public Law 96-8,  
23 22 U.S.C. 3301); Article 4, Section b of the TRA stipulates

1 that "wherever the laws of the United States refer or relate to  
2 foreign countries, nations, states, governments, or similar  
3 entities, such terms shall include and such laws shall apply  
4 with respect to Taiwan"; it is legitimate for Illinois  
5 businesses to refer to Taiwan, ROC, as Taiwan in conducting  
6 their business ties with the country; and

7 WHEREAS, Negotiations for a Bilateral Trade Agreement  
8 (BTA), the Avoidance of Double Taxation Agreement (ADTA), and  
9 the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity (IPEF)  
10 between Taiwan and the United States are important steps  
11 toward further strengthening bilateral trade between our  
12 countries, thereby increasing Illinois' exports to Taiwan and  
13 creating bilateral investment and technical collaboration  
14 through tariff reduction and other trade facilitation  
15 measures; and

16 WHEREAS, Taiwan has undertaken a policy of integrated  
17 diplomacy, values-based diplomacy, and allied diplomacy in its  
18 international relations; Taiwan is capable of, and willing to,  
19 fulfill its responsibilities and to collaborate with the world  
20 to deal with the challenges of humanitarian aid, disease  
21 control, and so forth; and

22 WHEREAS, The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) passed  
23 Resolution 2758 in 1971 to include representatives of the

1 People's Republic of China (PRC), but the above-mentioned  
2 resolution was never intended to address Taiwan's ultimate  
3 political status and did not preclude Taiwan's meaningful  
4 participation in the UN system on its own merit; therefore, be  
5 it

6 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL  
7 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we reaffirm our  
8 commitment to the strengthening and deepening of the sister  
9 ties between the State of Illinois and Taiwan, the Republic of  
10 China (ROC); and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That we reaffirm our support for the Taiwan  
12 Relations Act (TRA) and support Illinois businesses referring  
13 to Taiwan, ROC, as Taiwan; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That we endorse Taiwan's efforts to secure the  
15 signing of a Bilateral Trade Agreement (BTA), the Avoidance of  
16 Double Taxation Agreement (ADTA), and the Indo-Pacific  
17 Economic Framework for Prosperity (IPEF) with the United  
18 States, and we support the further strengthening of a closer  
19 economic and trade partnership between the State of Illinois  
20 and Taiwan with multiple possible approaches, including  
21 signing an economic and trade memorandum of understanding,  
22 exploring the possibility of establishing an Illinois Office  
23 in Taiwan, and sending Illinois high-level officials to visit

1 Taiwan; and be it further

2       RESOLVED, That we support Taiwan's meaningful  
3 participation in international organizations, including the  
4 United Nations (UN), the World Health Organization (WHO), the  
5 International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), the United  
6 Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), and  
7 the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL),  
8 which impact the health, safety, and well-being of the peoples  
9 of Taiwan, the State of Illinois, the United States, and the  
10 world; and be it further

11       RESOLVED, That we oppose any distortion or misuse of UNGA  
12 Resolution 2758 to attempt to deny Taiwan's aspiration to make  
13 more contributions in international societies; and be it  
14 further

15       RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be  
16 delivered to members of the Illinois Congressional Delegation  
17 and the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Chicago.