



HR0741

LRB100 16745 MST 31885 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The State of Illinois is proud of the sister-state relationship it has enjoyed with the Republic of China (Taiwan) since 1992, marked by strong bilateral trade, educational and cultural exchange, 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; Taiwan is the 10th largest trading partner of the United States; bilateral trade reached \$65.3 billion in 2016; and

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WHEREAS, Taiwan and the State of Illinois have enjoyed a long and mutually beneficial relationship with the prospect of future growth; Taiwan was Illinois' 6th largest export market in Asia in 2016, with \$699.49 million worth of Illinois goods exported to Taiwan; and

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WHEREAS, Negotiations for a Bilateral Trade Agreement (BTA) between Taiwan and the United States are an important step toward further strengthening bilateral trade between our countries, thereby increasing Illinois' exports to Taiwan and

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1 creating bilateral investment and technical collaboration  
2 through tariff reduction and other trade facilitation  
3 measures; and

4 WHEREAS, Taiwan has undertaken a policy of "steadfast  
5 diplomacy" in its international relations; Taiwan is capable of  
6 and willing to fulfill its responsibilities and to collaborate  
7 with the world to deal with the challenges of humanitarian aid,  
8 disease control, and so forth; therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
10 HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
11 reaffirm our commitment to the strengthening and deepening of  
12 the sister-state relationship between Taiwan and the State of  
13 Illinois; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That we endorse Taiwan's efforts to secure the  
15 signing of Bilateral Trade Agreement (BTA) with the United  
16 States; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That we continue to support Taiwan's appropriate  
18 participation in international organizations which impact the  
19 health, safety, and well-being of its people, and support its  
20 aspiration to make more contributions in international  
21 societies; and be it further

1           RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be  
2 delivered to all members of the Illinois Congressional  
3 Delegation and the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in  
4 Chicago.