



HR0034

LRB101 05867 MST 50886 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 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; Taiwan is the eleventh-largest trading partner of the United States and bilateral trade reached US\$ 68.2 billion in 2017; and

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WHEREAS, The United States Congress passed the landmark Taiwan Relations Act (TRA) in 1979 to sustain a close bilateral relationship between the United States and Taiwan, as well as to advance their mutual security and commercial interests; the TRA has served as the cornerstone of U.S.-Taiwan relations and has helped to preserve peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait; and

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WHEREAS, Taiwan and the State of Illinois have enjoyed a long and mutually beneficial relationship with the prospect of

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1 future growth; Taiwan was Illinois's eighth-largest export
2 market in Asia in 2017, with US\$ 669 million worth of Illinois
3 goods exported to Taiwan; and

4 WHEREAS, Negotiations for a Bilateral Trade Agreement
5 (BTA) between Taiwan and the United States are an important
6 step toward further strengthening bilateral trade between our
7 countries, thereby increasing Illinois's exports to Taiwan and
8 creating bilateral investment and technical collaboration
9 through tariff reduction and other trade facilitation
10 measures; and

11 WHEREAS, Taiwan has undertaken a policy of "steadfast
12 diplomacy" in its international relations; Taiwan is capable
13 of, and willing to, fulfill its responsibilities and to
14 collaborate with the world to deal with the challenges of
15 humanitarian aid, disease control, and so forth; therefore, be
16 it

17 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
18 HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
19 we recognize the 40th anniversary of the United States
20 Congress's enacting of the Taiwan Relations Act and reiterate
21 our support for a closer economic and trade partnership between
22 the United States and Taiwan; and be it further

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

4 RESOLVED, That we express our continued support for
5 Taiwan's meaningful participation in international
6 organizations which impact the health, safety, and well-being
7 of its people and support its aspiration to make more
8 contributions to the global community; and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
10 delivered to all members of the Illinois Congressional
11 Delegation and the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in
12 Chicago.