



SR0978

LRB101 18534 ECR 67987 r

1 SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, In 1992, the State of Illinois established the
3 sister-state relationship with the Taiwan Province, the
4 Republic of China (Taiwan); Illinois and Taiwan have enjoyed
5 strong bilateral trade, educational and cultural exchanges,
6 and tourism throughout their relationship; and

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

10 WHEREAS, The United States ranks as Taiwan's second largest
11 trading partner, and Taiwan is the United States' eleventh
12 largest trading partner; bilateral trade between the two
13 countries reached \$76.3 billion in U.S. dollars in 2018; and

14 WHEREAS, Taiwan and the State of Illinois have enjoyed a
15 long and mutually beneficial relationship with the prospect of
16 future growth; in 2018, Taiwan was Illinois' sixth largest
17 export market in Asia with \$832 million U.S. dollars worth of
18 Illinois' goods exported to Taiwan; and

19 WHEREAS, Negotiations for a Bilateral Trade Agreement
20 between Taiwan and the United States are an important step
21 towards further strengthening bilateral trade between our two

1 countries; and

2 WHEREAS, This Bilateral Trade Agreement would increase
3 Illinois exports to Taiwan and create bilateral investment and
4 technical collaboration through tariff reduction and other
5 trade facilitation measures; and

6 WHEREAS, Taiwan has taken a policy of "steadfast diplomacy"
7 in its international relations; Taiwan is capable of fulfilling
8 and is willing to fulfill its responsibilities and to
9 collaborate with the world to deal with the challenges we face,
10 including humanitarian aid and disease control; therefore, be
11 it

12 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL
13 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we reaffirm our
14 commitment to strengthening and deepening the sister ties
15 between the State of Illinois and Taiwan; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That we endorse Taiwan's efforts to secure the
17 signing of a Bilateral Trade Agreement with the United States,
18 and we reiterate our support for a closer economic and trade
19 partnership between the State of Illinois and Taiwan; and be it
20 further

21 RESOLVED, That we continue to support Taiwan's meaningful

1 participation in international organizations that impact the
2 health, safety, and well-being of its citizens and Taiwan's
3 aspiration to make more contributions in international
4 societies; and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
6 delivered to the members of the Illinois Congressional
7 Delegation and the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in
8 Chicago.