



SR0867

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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 (R.O.C.) in 1992, and 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; Taiwan is the eighth-largest trading partner of the United States, and bilateral trade reached more than US\$ 856 billion in 2021; 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, and Taiwan was Illinois's seventh-largest export market in Asia in 2020 with US\$ 673 million worth of Illinois goods exported to Taiwan; and

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WHEREAS, To strengthen the Taiwan-Illinois bilateral economic relationship, it is essential to support Illinois businesses to enhance their economic engagement with Taiwan

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1 based on the 1979 Taiwan Relations Act (TRA, Public Law 96-8,
2 22 USC 3301); as Article 4 Section b of the TRA stipulates that
3 "wherever the laws of the United States refer or relate to
4 foreign countries, nations, states, governments, or similar
5 entities, such terms shall include and such laws shall apply
6 with respect to Taiwan"; it is legitimate for Illinois
7 businesses to refer to Taiwan as Taiwan in conducting their
8 business ties with Taiwan; and

9 WHEREAS, Negotiations for a Bilateral Trade Agreement
10 (BTA) between Taiwan and the United States are an important
11 step toward further strengthening bilateral trade between our
12 countries, thereby increasing Illinois's 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 "steadfast
17 diplomacy" in its international relations; Taiwan is capable
18 of, and willing to, fulfill its responsibilities and to
19 collaborate with the world to deal with the challenges of
20 humanitarian aid, disease control, and so forth; therefore, be
21 it

22 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL
23 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we reaffirm our

1 commitment to the strengthening and deepening of the sister
2 ties between the State of Illinois and Taiwan, R.O.C.; and be
3 it further

4 RESOLVED, That we reaffirm our support for the Taiwan
5 Relations Act and support Illinois businesses referring to
6 Taiwan, R.O.C. as Taiwan; and be it further

7 RESOLVED, That we endorse Taiwan's efforts to secure the
8 signing of a Bilateral Trade Agreement (BTA) with the United
9 States and reiterate our support for a closer economic and
10 trade partnership between the State of Illinois and Taiwan;
11 and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That we continue to support Taiwan's meaningful
13 participation in international organizations that impact the
14 health, safety, and well-being of the people of Taiwan and
15 support Taiwan's aspiration to make more contributions in
16 international societies.