



SR0765

LRB103 39273 LAW 69426 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, In 1992, the State of Illinois established a sister-state relationship with Taiwan, the Republic of China (R.O.C.); 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 State of Illinois and the United States; and

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WHEREAS, The United States ranks as Taiwan's second-largest trading partner; Taiwan is the ninth-largest trading partner of the United States, with bilateral trade reaching more than US\$ 160 billion in 2022; and

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WHEREAS, Taiwan imported nearly US\$ 4.4 billion worth of U.S. farm products in 2022, making it the seventh largest market for U.S. agricultural products overall, the fourth largest market on a per capita basis among the top 10 U.S. agricultural export destinations, and the seventh largest market for U.S. soybeans and corn individually; and

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WHEREAS, Due to its high quality produce, the U.S. remains

1 one of Taiwan's largest sources of agricultural products,
2 supplying more than one-fifth of the country's major
3 agricultural imports; and

4 WHEREAS, Taiwan and the State of Illinois have enjoyed a
5 long and mutually beneficial relationship with the prospect of
6 future growth; Taiwan was Illinois' fifth-largest export
7 market in Asia in 2022, with US\$ 876 million worth of Illinois
8 goods exported to Taiwan; and

9 WHEREAS, To strengthen the Taiwan-Illinois bilateral
10 economic relationship, it is essential to support Illinois
11 businesses to enhance their economic engagement with Taiwan
12 based on the 1979 Taiwan Relations Act (TRA, Public Law 96-8,
13 22 U.S.C. 3301); Article 4, Section b of the TRA stipulates
14 that "wherever the laws of the United States refer or relate to
15 foreign countries, nations, states, governments, or similar
16 entities, such terms shall include and such laws shall apply
17 with respect to Taiwan"; it is legitimate for Illinois
18 businesses to refer to Taiwan, R.O.C. as Taiwan in conducting
19 their business ties with Taiwan; and

20 WHEREAS, Negotiations for a Bilateral Trade Agreement
21 (BTA), the Avoidance of Double Taxation Agreement (ADTA), and
22 the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity (IPEF)
23 between Taiwan and the United States are an important step

1 toward further strengthening bilateral trade between our
2 countries, thereby increasing Illinois' exports to Taiwan and
3 creating bilateral investment and technical collaboration
4 through tariff reduction and other trade facilitation
5 measures; and

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

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

17 RESOLVED, That we reaffirm our support for the Taiwan
18 Relations Act (TRA) and support Illinois businesses to refer
19 to Taiwan, R.O.C. as Taiwan; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That we endorse Taiwan's efforts to secure the
21 signing of a Bilateral Trade Agreement (BTA), the Avoidance of
22 Double Taxation Agreement (ADTA), and the Indo-Pacific

1 Economic Framework for Prosperity (IPEF) with the United
2 States, and we reiterate our support for a closer economic and
3 trade partnership between the State of Illinois and Taiwan;
4 and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That we continue to support Taiwan's meaningful
6 participation in international organizations, such as the
7 United Nations (UN), the World Health Organization (WHO), the
8 International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), the United
9 Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the
10 International Criminal Police Organization - INTERPOL
11 (ICPO-INTERPOL), which impact the health, safety, and
12 well-being of the people of Taiwan, and we support Taiwan's
13 aspiration to make more contributions in international
14 societies.