

By: Representatives Perry, S. Malone

HOUSE RESOLUTION

TO COMMEND AND ENCOURAGE THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN TAIWAN AND THE STATE OF ARKANSAS; TO SUPPORT TAIWAN'S PARTICIPATION IN THE INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION AND UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE; TO CALL FOR CLOSER ECONOMIC RELATIONS BETWEEN TAIWAN AND THE UNITED STATES; AND TO COMMEND DIRECTOR GENERAL DANIEL LIAO FOR HIS EFFORTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO ADVANCE ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE BETWEEN TAIWAN AND THE STATE OF ARKANSAS.

Subtitle

TO COMMEND AND ENCOURAGE THE RELATIONSHIP AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS BETWEEN TAIWAN AND ARKANSAS AND TO COMMEND DIRECTOR GENERAL LIAO FOR ADVANCING ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE BETWEEN TAIWAN AND ARKANSAS.

WHEREAS, the United States and the Republic of China, commonly known as "Taiwan", engage in robust bilateral trade, and Taiwan is the world's 23rd largest economy, 17th largest export economy, 16th largest import economy, 4th largest holder of foreign exchange reserves, 10th largest U.S. trading partner, 15th largest U.S. export market, 1st largest per capita importer of U.S. agricultural products, Arkansas' 13th largest export market with \$7.09 million in Arkansas agriculture products imported by Taiwan in 2011; and

WHEREAS, Taiwan is a member of the World Trade Organization, and a free



trade agreement between Taiwan and the United States would substantially reduce or eliminate most import quotas, duties, and other trade barriers, expanding market opportunities for manufactured goods and agricultural products from Arkansas and the entire United States; and

WHEREAS, given the important role Taiwan plays in commercial aviation and the global economy, it is vital that Taiwan participates as an observer in the International Civil Aviation Organization and United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change; and

WHEREAS, meaningful participation by Taiwan as an observer in the International Civil Aviation Organization will enhance efforts to improve safety and procedures and will develop a global strategy to address aviation security threats; and as an observer in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Taiwan will contribute greatly to global efforts aimed at reducing and preventing natural disasters; and

WHEREAS, 2013 marks the 30th anniversary of the sister-state relationship between Taiwan and Arkansas as well as the 30th anniversary of the sister-city relationship between the City of Kaohsiung and the City of Little Rock, and

WHEREAS, Ambassador Daniel Liao, who will leave his current post of Director General of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Houston in March, has made significant contributions to promote economic and educational opportunities between Taiwan and Arkansas; and Director General Liao delivered speeches to introduce Taiwan's latest political and economic developments, and extended friendship and cooperation between Taiwan and Arkansas to the students and faculty of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, University of Central Arkansas, and University of Arkansas at Fort Smith during his tenure in Houston,

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FOR THE EIGHTY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

THAT the House of Representatives:

(1) Supports Taiwan's participation in the International Civil Aviation Organization and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change;

(2) Encourages a closer economic relationship between Taiwan and the United States by negotiating a free trade agreement and a bilateral investment agreement between Taiwan and the United States and Taiwan's participation in the Trans-Pacific Partnership;

(3) Celebrates the 30th anniversary of the sister-state relationship between Arkansas and Taiwan as well as the sister-city relationship between the City of Kaohsiung and the City of Little Rock initially formed in 1983; and

(4) Recognizes the efforts and contributions towards enhanced cooperation between Taiwan and Arkansas made by Director General Daniel Liao, and wishes him a fond farewell and all the best in Taiwan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon its adoption a copy of this resolution be delivered to Director General Daniel Liao and the Directors of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission and the Department of Parks and Tourism.