

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 58

BY SENATOR PEACOCK AND REPRESENTATIVES AMEDEE, CARRIER, ROBBY CARTER, EDMONSTON, FISHER, GAROFALO, HODGES, JEFFERSON, JENKINS, LARVADAIN, MACK, MARINO, CHARLES OWEN, PIERRE, PRESSLY, SCHAMERHORN, SCHEXNAYDER, SCHLEGEL, THOMPSON, WHITE, WRIGHT AND ZERINGUE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To express support for the strengthening of the partnership with Taiwan and for the expansion of Taiwan's role on the global stage.

WHEREAS, the longstanding bonds of friendship between the United States and Taiwan, embodied in the Taiwan Relations Act of 1979, continue to yield important economic, strategic, and cultural benefits; and

WHEREAS, Taiwan ranks as our nation's eighth largest trading partner, and in 2020, bilateral trade in goods and services reached \$106 billion; and

WHEREAS, Taiwan ranks as the seventh largest export market for United States agricultural products and is a particularly important market for Louisiana farmers; and

WHEREAS, Taiwan's biennial agricultural trade goodwill missions result in multibillion-dollar supply deals and Taiwan annually dispatches delegations to the SelectUSA Investment Summit to boost investments; and

WHEREAS, Taiwan's recent action to lift restrictions on United States beef and pork beginning January 2021 will serve to enhance bilateral trade; and

WHEREAS, the robust trade and investment partnership between the United States and Taiwan provides a solid foundation for a mutually beneficial bilateral trade agreement to spur job creation, further expand the global market, and secure international supply chains; and

WHEREAS, Taiwan is well positioned to play an important role augmenting the revitalization of the global supply chain as part of the post pandemic economic recovery; and

WHEREAS, Taiwan is committed to helping address global challenges, from humanitarian crises to nontraditional security threats; and

WHEREAS, this year Taiwan has emerged as an important partner in pandemic prevention, providing more than fifty-five million surgical masks and other personal protective equipment to more than eighty countries around the world, and has achieved world renowned accolades for its effective pandemic prevention and containment, bolstering unprecedented international support for Taiwan's response to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, Taiwanese officials and civil society groups partner with the United States on a range of issues to promote our common values of freedom, democracy, and human rights and Taiwan joined with the United States to establish the Partnership against COVID-19, building on the cooperative tradition of prior joint partnerships such as the Global Cooperation and Training Framework, which advances Taiwanese leadership in such arenas as democratization, human rights, women's empowerment, and public health; and

WHEREAS, this year marks the thirty-seventh anniversary of the sister state relationship between Louisiana and Taiwan and is a bond nurtured through mutually beneficial exchanges; and

WHEREAS, Taiwan is Louisiana's eighth largest trading partner in Asia and, in 2020, Taiwan imported nearly \$390 million in commodities from Louisiana and in turn, Louisiana imported \$132 million in Taiwanese goods; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana and the United States have benefitted immeasurably through decades of an unwavering friendship with Taiwan and the wider world is sure to reap tremendous rewards as Taiwan works to enhance its presence in the international community.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express its support for the strengthening of the partnership with Taiwan and for the expansion of Taiwan's role on the global stage.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby do all of the following:

(1) Expresses support for a bilateral trade agreement between the United States and Taiwan.

(2) Expresses support for Taiwan's meaningful participation in international organizations with the United States.

(3) Expresses support for Louisiana to establish a partnership with Taiwan through the National Guard State Partnership program to build on our decades of mutually beneficial relations.

(4) Celebrates the forty-third anniversary of the enactment of the Taiwan Relations Act and the thirty-seventh anniversary of the sister state relationship between the state of Louisiana and Taiwan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Houston, Texas.

---

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

---

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES