

1 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 19

2 **52ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2015**

3 INTRODUCED BY

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10 A JOINT MEMORIAL

11 REQUESTING THE CONGRESS AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES
12 TO SUPPORT THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA'S (TAIWAN'S) MEANINGFUL
13 PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, A UNITED STATES-
14 TAIWAN BILATERAL INVESTMENT AGREEMENT AND TAIWAN'S
15 PARTICIPATION IN THE TRANS-PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP AND THE GOVERNOR
16 TO LEAD A BUSINESS AND TRADE DELEGATION TO TAIWAN.

17
18 WHEREAS, the Republic of China (Taiwan) became Asia's
19 first republic in 1911 and, over the past two decades, has been
20 praised as a beacon of democracy for Asia, having made great
21 strides toward entering the world arena as a trusted partner;
22 and

23 WHEREAS, Taiwan is not currently permitted to join many
24 international organizations, which prevents the country from
25 making significant contributions in such areas as economics,

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1 aviation, health and climate; and

2 WHEREAS, a delegation from Taiwan was invited to
3 participate in the thirty-eighth international civil aviation
4 organization assembly, which was the first time since Taiwan
5 was excluded from assembly meetings in 1971, as guests of the
6 council president; and

7 WHEREAS, Taiwan's absence from international organizations
8 dealing with airline safety and security has left a gap in the
9 international aviation security system, as Taiwan is a key
10 transport hub in the Asia-Pacific region and has one of the
11 world's largest airports by cargo volume, Taoyuan international
12 airport; and

13 WHEREAS, meaningful participation by the government of
14 Taiwan as an observer in the international civil aviation
15 organization meetings and activities contributes both to the
16 fulfillment of that organization's overarching mission and to
17 the success of a global strategy to address aviation security
18 threats based on effective international cooperation; and

19 WHEREAS, although Taiwan has yet to be permitted
20 participation as an observer in the United Nations framework
21 convention on climate change process, it still aspires to be a
22 part of global efforts to protect the environment for future
23 generations; and

24 WHEREAS, since May 2009, Taiwan's department of health has
25 been invited for six consecutive years to attend the world

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1 health assembly as an observer under the designation "Chinese
2 Taipei"; and

3 WHEREAS, Taiwan, which stands as the United States'
4 eleventh-largest trading partner, and the United States, which
5 stands as Taiwan's third-largest trading partner, have engaged
6 in high-level ministerial discussions under the trade and
7 investment framework agreement in order to move toward a
8 bilateral investment agreement; and

9 WHEREAS, Taiwan actively seeks meaningful ways to improve
10 trade relations with other nations, especially the United
11 States, by preparing for induction into the Trans-Pacific
12 partnership in order to create greater multilateral interaction
13 in the Asia-Pacific region; and

14 WHEREAS, Taiwan signed the 2010 Economic Cooperation
15 Framework Agreement and the 2013 Cross-Strait Service Trade
16 Agreement on Trade in Services with mainland China, making
17 Taiwan the most viable gateway for American enterprises aimed
18 at the Asia-Pacific market as well as an established business
19 hub for foreign enterprises; and

20 WHEREAS, Taiwan hopes that trade relations with the United
21 States will ultimately lead to a free trade agreement, which
22 would usher in an unprecedented level of commercial prosperity
23 and transparency between the two nations; and

24 WHEREAS, a United States-Taiwan bilateral investment
25 agreement or free trade agreement will strengthen economic

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1 growth for both nations, as well as provide a gateway into
2 Taiwan and mainland China for American foreign direct
3 investment; and

4 WHEREAS, as of 2014, Taiwan ranked first in foreign direct
5 investment to mainland China, third to Vietnam and Thailand and
6 fourth to Malaysia; and

7 WHEREAS, Taiwan signed free trade agreements respectively
8 with New Zealand and Singapore in 2013, and signed a bilateral
9 investment agreement with Japan in 2011; and

10 WHEREAS, Taiwan seeks to contribute to peace, freedom and
11 security in the world as a responsible stakeholder and
12 peaceable nation of twenty-three million citizens through
13 Taiwanese policies such as "viable diplomacy" in foreign
14 affairs and its pragmatic approach to relations with mainland
15 China; and

16 WHEREAS, former United States Secretary of State Hillary
17 Clinton publicly acknowledged Taiwan as an important economic
18 and security partner of the United States at the 2011 Asia-
19 Pacific economic cooperation conference; and

20 WHEREAS, Taiwan was designated as a participant in the
21 United States visa waiver program in 2012, mutually benefiting
22 bilateral economic and cultural exchanges between Taiwan and
23 the United States; and

24 WHEREAS, New Mexico has had a strong economic and cultural
25 relationship with Taiwan since establishing sister-state

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1 relations in 1985 and sister-city relations between Albuquerque
2 and Hualien city in 1983; and

3 WHEREAS, over the last two years, two delegations from the
4 New Mexico legislature have conducted official visits to Taiwan
5 in recognition of Taiwan's democratic and economic achievements
6 and to strengthen New Mexico's future cultural, business and
7 trade exchanges with Taiwan;

8 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
9 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the congress and the president of the
10 United States be requested to support the efforts of Taiwan to
11 be granted observer status by certain international
12 organizations and agreements, including the international civil
13 aviation organization, the United Nations framework convention
14 on climate change and the world health organization; and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the congress and the president
16 of the United States be requested to support Taiwan's
17 participation in the Trans-Pacific partnership and continuing
18 trade and investment framework agreement talks discussing the
19 signing of a bilateral investment agreement with the United
20 States; and

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the governor be encouraged to
22 lead a delegation to visit Taiwan for the purpose of enhancing
23 New Mexico's business and trade connections with Taiwan and the
24 Asian-Pacific market and that the governor be encouraged to
25 include business and industry leaders from throughout New

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1 Mexico in the delegation; and

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
3 transmitted to the president of the United States, the United
4 States secretary of state, the members of New Mexico's
5 congressional delegation, the United States trade
6 representative, the governor and the secretary of economic
7 development.

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